

Iraqi president receives Qasem

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein had talks here on Wednesday with Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, on relations between the two countries, the Iraqi News Agency said. It gave no details of the talks and did not say when Mr. Qasem arrived in Baghdad. Mr. Qasem accompanied Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm aimed at ironing out differences between them. The meeting was arranged by an Arab League committee headed by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, which visited Amman, Baghdad and Damascus earlier this month. The committee was set up by an extraordinary Arab summit in Morocco last month to try to reconcile Syria's differences with Jordan and Iraq before a regular summit scheduled for the Saudi capital Riyadh in November.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

U.S. Congressmen seek compromise

WASHINGTON (R) — Key congressmen on Wednesday suggested they might be willing to compromise with the Reagan administration on a new arms sale package to Jordan but a top U.S. official was cool to the idea. With King Hussein scheduled to visit President Reagan on Sept. 30 and the White House working hard to reverse congressional opposition to a new weapons package, the overture was the first sign that pro-Israeli lawmakers were ready to bargain. The compromise came from Chairman Lee Hamilton of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East as the panel heard Richard Murphy, Mr. Reagan's envoy, discuss his August trip to the region. "You've got a problem with the Congress... one way you might deal with that is to alter the package," the Democrat said, adding: "I'm trying to find out if you're interested in that kind of a deal."

(See related story below)

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Decree approves envoy to Sana'a

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued on Wednesday appointing Mr. Adnan Malkawi as Jordan's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to North Yemen. Mr. Malkawi had served as Jordanian charge d'affaires in Damascus before his appointment to head Jordan's mission in Sana'a.

Iraq says Iranian pilot defected

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said an Iranian air force pilot defected to Iraq on Wednesday Baghdad's daily war communiqué said the Iranian pilot was a flight lieutenant. It did not give the circumstances of his defection or say whether he flew an Iranian plane to Iraq.

Israeli cabinet fails to agree on Taba

TEL AVIV (R) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Wednesday that the Israeli cabinet had again failed to agree on proposals for resolving a dispute over the Sinai beach strip of Taba, claimed by both Egypt and Israel. Mr. Shamir, speaking on state radio after a meeting of the 10-member "inner cabinet", sought to play down the importance of what he described as differences within the government over Taba. "I don't view the issue as urgent or very vital," he said.

Reagan seeks to admit 6,000 refugees

WASHINGTON (USA) — President Reagan is proposing that the United States admit 6,000 refugees from the Near East and South Asia and 3,000 from Africa in fiscal year 1986. Secretary of State George Shultz told a congressional committee. Appearing before the Senate judiciary committee on Tuesday, Mr. Shultz also reported that the United States continues to be the leading supporter of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Near East, providing a total of \$75 million in the present fiscal year.

Veteran Spanish diplomat elected U.N. president

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A Spanish diplomat who began his career during the regime of Francisco Franco and has spent more than half his adult life at the United Nations has been chosen to preside over the General Assembly during its 40th anniversary year. Jaime de Pines, 67, who has represented his country at 28 assembly sessions, was elected by acclamation late Tuesday to the U.N.'s most prestigious post.

8 AIDS cases reported at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Eight cases of AIDS have been identified among U.N. staff in the past four years and four deaths from it occurred, the organization said Wednesday. "There is no one having AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) working in the building at present," a spokesman said in a statement.

King: Initiative for peace deserves continued support Thatcher: U.K. ready for role

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said on Wednesday Jordan hopes that the British support for the joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative for peace in the Middle East will be strengthened by a collective European backing and reiterated his call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In a speech he delivered at a banquet he hosted in honour of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who began a two-day visit to Jordan on Wednesday, King Hussein said the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "is founded on a collective Arab desire for peace as enunciated by the Arab peace plan of the 1982 Fez summit."

The King emphasised that the Feb. 11 agreement is based on two principles for resolving conflicts. "The first principle is that any party to a dispute ought to be parties to its resolution," and it opens the way for the PLO's participation in the peace process, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, King Hussein said.

The second principle is the need for the parties to any conflict to "start off from a point of equilibrium in order to achieve at a balanced solution," he said. Such a solution can be achieved

only through an international peace conference, as called for in U.N. Security Council Resolution 338, the King said.

Recalling that an international conference was held in Geneva in the wake of the 1973 Middle East war, the King said: "It is our view that this is still the approach required today, namely peace negotiations under the aegis of an international conference in which the five permanent members of the Security Council would participate along with all the parties to the conflict."

"The encouragement which our peace initiative has received from friendly European countries, especially the United Kingdom, justifies our expectations of con-

(Continued on page 9)

Baghdad reports recapture of heights

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq recaptured three "extremely important" heights in a lightning attack overnight against Iranian forces in the northern fronts, Baghdad Radio reported Wednesday. The radio said the attack was launched at midnight Tuesday, Baghdad time (1900 GMT), with the help of Kurdish Iraqi fighters. It did not give the exact location of the operation.

"In a heroic battle, the enemy was dislodged and defeated and the situation decisively settled in favour of Iraqi armed forces in their newly liberated positions," the broadcast said.

This was an indication that the attack was within Iraqi territory in the predominantly Kurdish northernmost corner of the country. Earlier Wednesday, Iraq announced that its jet fighters inflicted "an accurate and effective hit" on an unidentified vessel near the Iranian coast as part of the Iraqi blockade on its Gulf war foe shipping routes.

The raid on a "large maritime target" was carried out at 11:00 p.m. (1900 GMT) Tuesday night and the attacking jet fighters returned unharmed to base, according to the announcement by an Iraqi military spokesman.

It was the fifth such raid announced by Iraq this month, but only one ship was confirmed to have been crippled by an Iraqi Exocet water-skimming missile, according to Gulf shipping circles.

A Bahrain-based marine salvage executive said there was no immediate confirmation of the latest raid.

A "large maritime target" is an Iraqi military byword for a tanker. The executive said that if ships are attacked near the Iranian coast, they fail to put out distress signals and their rescue is left to the Iranian navy.

Last Friday, a tugboat belonging to the Dutch salvage company Smit International was attacked at 3:00 p.m. (1100 GMT) at 3:00 p.m. (1100 GMT).

(Continued on page 7)

Israeli troops kill Arab youth in Gaza

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Israeli troops in occupied Gaza on Tuesday shot dead a Palestinian who, they charged, refused to stop for an identity check. The dead youth was identified as 18-year-old Ibrahim Muntaser.

The incident in Gaza City was the first reported fatal shooting of a local resident by Israeli occupation forces since last April.

An Israeli spokesman said an Israeli patrol fired "warning" shots and then aimed for the youth after it ordered him to halt for an identity check and he began fleeing.

Last week, Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank shot and wounded six Palestinians. The occupation army said the six refused to stop at army checkpoints

set up to counter anti-Israeli attacks.

Reports said Wednesday that the Israeli army imposed a military siege around Gaza following Tuesday's incident and launched a search and arrest campaign in the city.

In another development, an Israeli military spokesman said two explosive charges were discovered at the Armit settlement south of occupied Hebron on the West Bank. The spokesman said the charges were defused before they could explode.

The Israelis were also reported to have imposed a partial curfew on Balata refugee camp near Nablus Tuesday evening. The curfew followed throwing of stones at Israeli military vehicles passing in that area, reports said.

Jordanian publisher shot dead in Athens

ATHENS (Agencies) — A gunman Wednesday shot dead the Jordanian publisher of an Athens-based Arabic-language magazine which had criticised Arab governments and written of an alleged plot to overthrow the Syrian president, police said.

They said they were questioning a man but gave no details. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Friends of 37-year-old Michel Nimri, who published the magazine Amnashra, said he was of Jordanian origin and a personal

friend of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat. Police said he held a Syrian passport.

Eyewitnesses told Reuters a swarthy, curly-haired man aged about 30 and wearing grey trousers, a striped shirt and brown shoes shot Mr. Nimri three times as he walked down the stairs of a central Athens apartment building which houses the magazine's offices.

Journalists saw Mr. Nimri's

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Chamoun, Franjeh and Helou seek joint strategy

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Three former Lebanese presidents met on Wednesday to work out a common Christian stance for peace negotiations with the country's Muslims as fresh fighting hit Beirut and the northern port of Tripoli.

In Tripoli, three people were killed and 23 wounded in fierce artillery exchanges between the mainly Sunni Muslim "Islamic Unification Movement" (Tawheed) and the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP), state-

owned Beirut Radio said.

Forty-three people have been killed and more than 160 wounded since fighting, the worst this year, broke out in Lebanon's second largest city on Sunday.

In Beirut, residential areas near the southern part of the "green line" dividing the city were shelled briefly from hills to the south, radios said. No casualties were reported.

In the village of Smar, Joubil,

(Continued on page 9)

Mubarak dismisses rumours of attempts on his life

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak Wednesday dismissed rumours of attempts on his life, saying he was in good health and would continue to lead the country.

In a televised speech at Rashid, also known as Rosetta, Mr. Mubarak specifically refuted a rumour that he had escaped an assassination attempt but had suffered a bullet wound in the arm.

The rumour began circulating throughout the country last month while Mr. Mubarak was running state affairs from his summer retreat at Alexandria.

Officials privately denied it, noting that Mr. Mubarak had been receiving guests daily during his stay there, but Mr. Mubarak's statement in Wednesday's speech was the first public mention of it.

In the speech at a political rally, Mr. Mubarak also announced that he instructed the government three months ago to stop borrowing from foreign lenders "except for pressing production projects." He said the order was to reduce the country's debt-servicing burden which stands at two billion Egyptian pounds (\$1.6 billion) this year.

"There has been a strange phenomenon this summer," Mr. Mubarak said in reference to the alleged destabilisation efforts.

"Some people are venting their opposition by spreading rumours. They form something of a secret party. The aim is to undermine Egypt's stability... the guy next door (Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi) is disseminating the same rumours on his radio. Is this done by agreement? I wonder."

He said he laughed "when someone from southern Egypt asked me about reports that I had been the target of a shooting. These rumours can have only one aim: to show that this is an unstable country and to discourage investments and projects."

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His Majesty King Hussein receives British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Wednesday (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

Jordan greets British leader with grand welcome ceremony

By Rana Sabhagh Jordan Times Staff reporter

AMMAN — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was accorded a grand official welcome ceremony at the Amman military airport by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, cabinet ministers and senior civil and military officials when she arrived here Wednesday on a two-day visit.

Mrs. Thatcher, who was accompanied by her husband Denis Thatcher, daughter Carol and an official delegation, flew to

Amman from Cairo, after a two-day visit to Egypt during which she met with President Hosni Mubarak and other senior officials.

Bagpipes blared, drums rolled and the Jordanian Armed Forces Band played military music while Mrs. Thatcher's Royal Air Force DC 10, decorated with Jordanian and British flags, touched the airport's tarmac.

Mr. and Mrs. Rifai were the first to welcome the British prime minister and Mr. Thatcher, who were later greeted by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid

and his wife, Princess Majida. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and his wife, Khawla, British Ambassador to Jordan Arthur John Coles and his wife, and Jordanian Ambassador to Britain Nabih Nimr.

Mr. Rifai and Mrs. Thatcher mounted the royal platform while the British and Jordanian national anthems were played. Later both prime ministers inspected a guard

(Continued on page 7)

Washington 'determined to go ahead' with arms sales to Jordan

From Saleem Ne'matt in Washington

THE U.S. administration is determined to go ahead with a sale of advanced arms to Jordan despite declared opposition by the U.S. Congress, according to a State Department official who specialises in the Middle East.

"The administration intends to put all its weight behind the sale because the peace process and America's friendship with Jordan is at stake," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Jordan Times this week.

The request for the major arms sale is expected to resurface in strength next week and to spark a

major battle between Congress and the White House.

The administration has under active consideration an arms package to Jordan of either F-16 or F-20 fighter aircraft, improved mobile Hawk ground-to-air missile batteries, air transport planes and tanks. The total cost of the deal has not been set yet but could reach \$1 billion.

Secretary of State George Shultz and Mr. Richard Murphy, his assistant for the Middle East, have been speaking off the record to congressional groups in recent days to argue the administration's case for the sale of arms to Jordan.

Members of Congress opposed to the sale have contended that the

certification requirement that Jordan publicly announce its recognition of and its readiness to negotiate promptly and directly with Israel "made such a sale impossible."

Mr. Shultz reportedly said that a way could be found to deal with that language.

A spokesman for the State Department explained that in order to block the arms sale, a resolution of disapproval would have to be passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(Continued on page 9)

Reagan rules out any deal with Soviets on SDI

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has virtually ruled out any deal with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to trade his "Star Wars" nuclear defence plan for Moscow's acceptance of U.S. Soviet nuclear missile cuts.

At his first big news conference since June, Mr. Reagan said Tuesday night that he would instead try to convince Mr. Gorbachev at their November 19-20 summit that both superpowers should turn to such defensive systems.

He also defended his limited sanctions against South Africa, and warned that a "mindless stampede toward (trade) protectionism" in the U.S. Congress could bring an economic disaster like the worldwide depression of the 1930s.

Mr. Gorbachev said in a U.S. magazine interview published this month that U.S.-Soviet missile cuts would be possible if Mr. Reagan curbed his research into the strategic defence initiative (SDI), the official name for the "Star Wars" project.

But Mr. Reagan said Tuesday night the research was not a bargaining chip.

When pressed whether that meant he was ruling out any deal to give up testing or development of "Star Wars" weapons, Mr. Reagan said, "I think that's a legitimate part of research and yes, I would rule that out."

Mr. Reagan said he would negotiate actual deployment of such weapons but his answer ruled out giving up any development work short of actual deployment.

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London calls truce after Soviets oust more Britons

LONDON (AP) — Britain called a truce in its war of expulsions with the Soviet Union on Wednesday, saying it would not deport any Soviets in retaliation for the latest ouster of six Britons from Moscow.

"We wish to draw a line under this affair," said Christopher Meyer, head of the Foreign Office News Department. "We have no plans at present for further expulsions from London."

The Foreign Office statement came a few hours after the Soviets ordered out five British embassy staff members and a journalist in

the latest round of tit-for-tat expulsions triggered by the defection to Britain of the KGB spy agency's chief operative last week.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher insisted the Soviets had lost out in the crisis that threatened damage Anglo-Soviet relations.

Speaking to reporters in Egypt, where she was on an official visit, she said: "This shows the Soviet Union in a pretty poor light. They were caught red-handed and are now red-faced."

The crisis has brought relations

(Continued on page 9)

THE VISIT OF MRS. THATCHER

is highly appreciated by

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Suppliers of diesel generators to Jordan

In response to the appeal by H. R.H. Crown Prince Hassan

The Royal Society of Fine Arts calls on all plastic artists in Jordan to participate in the Grand Exhibition to be held by the Jordan National Gallery and the Royal Cultural Centre in aid of the famine victims in Sudan. Place: Royal Cultural Centre Date: 28 September 1985.

Those who wish to participate should hand their works to the Royal Cultural Centre before 25/9/1985.

Wajdan Ali President

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Mysterious cargo plane from Iran landed in Israel 'due to problems'

TEL AVIV (AP) — A mysterious cargo jet flying from Iran which was grounded in Israel for two and a half days due to technical problems belonged to the U.S. government, airport officials said Wednesday.

But a U.S. official denied that the DC-8, which arrived in Israel on Sunday after a three-hour disappearance in Turkish airspace, belonged to the American government.

"There's no connection with the U.S. government, it must be a private plane," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press (AP). He said he had no information about the plane whatsoever.

The initial report that the plane belonged to the U.S. government came from Aviation Authority Director-General Zvi Gov-Arie. When contacted Wednesday by the AP, a spokesman said Gov-Arie, a former Israel Air Force officer, stood by what he said and "he has nothing to add."

The reaction was the latest in a series of conflicting reports about the plane, which was on a flight from Tehran to Malaga, Spain.

Israel's military and aviation authorities adamantly and repeatedly denied for two days that the plane had landed here.

Another conflict has arisen about whether the plane was empty or was carrying cargo. Gov-Arie told the AP the plane carried cargo but several Israeli newspapers, among them the respected daily Haaretz, said the

craft was empty. Israeli authorities also rejected requests by Israeli reporters to interview the crew, which the Jerusalem Post reported numbered three.

Even the technical problem which caused the plane to land here Sunday has not been made clear, with some newspapers reporting the electronic radar system failed and others reporting a problem in the communications system.

No one here could say what an official American plane was doing in Israel which does not have any ties with the United States.

The topic also came up in a briefing by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who said he knew nothing about the plane and denied speculation that it could have been involved in a weapons deal with Iran. "We don't supply any arms to Iran," he told reporters in Jerusalem.

There have been reports in the past that Israel sold spare parts to Iran for its air force of mostly U.S. planes. But Iran specialist Mark Heller of Tel Aviv University's Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies told the AP that Israel stopped the sales in 1981 or 1982, due both to American pressure and to fear that the sales would help Iran win

its war with Iraq. Israeli officials have said they favour a stalemate in the protracted war between the two countries in order to prevent them from fighting the Jewish state.

The plane took off at 7 a.m. (0400 GMT) but Israeli officials declined to give its destination. "It doesn't have to give a flight plan. And even if it does, it could change midway," said Avi Tzur, a spokesman for the airport authority.

Gov-Arie said the plane's identification letters were "N421aG" and that these were "symbols of the U.S. government." He added that the plane was not a military aircraft.

He could not explain why the plane was earlier identified by Airport Manager Mordechai Behi and by airport officials in Turkey as belonging to a U.S. company called International Airlines.

An airline spokesman in Miami said the craft was sold last year to International Air Tourism of Nigeria.

The plane reported electronic and communications difficulties while in Turkish airspace and then stopped radio contact with the controllers in Turkey and Cyprus, landing three hours later at Tel Aviv Airport.

The craft was towed to the Israel Aircraft Industries section of the airport but repairs were held up because of the two-day Jewish New Year holiday, the daily Haaretz reported.



JOURNALIST KILLED: The body of Michael Nimr, a Jordanian publisher, lies at the entrance of his office in Athens Wednesday morning, shortly after he was shot by an unidentified gunman (Story on page 1)

Zahle drops out of the civil war

By Andrew Tarnowski
Reuters

ZAHLE, Lebanon (R) — The biggest Christian city in Lebanon has laid down its arms, invited in Syrian troops and dropped out of the 10-year-old civil war.

Possibly signalling a new Falangist readiness to end the war with Syrian help, city notables say they were encouraged in the move by Falangist political and militia leaders in Beirut.

With some 200,000 people, Zahle is the largest exclusively Christian city in the Middle East. Renowned for its military traditions, it has fought as an isolated bastion on the edge of the eastern Bekaa Valley, but its leaders say the city cannot take any more fighting.

Tuning to Syria for protection, they won a guarantee that Syrian troops, who entered this month after Zahle's 4,000 militiamen disbanded, will prevent further Muslim attacks.

"Zahle cannot bear any more war," a city Falangist Party leader said, explaining why Zahle left the war camp.

City notables say the decision caused no dismay in the Falangist camp but was encouraged by President Amin Gemayel. Elie Hobeika, chief of the "Lebanese Forces" militia, and Ex-President Suleiman Franjieh.

"What other choice do we have?" the Falangist said of Zahle's pact with Syria. "More war? European, American, Israeli help? The Pope in Rome...? What

can we expect of them?"

While Syria backs Muslim forces battling the Falangists for more political power, it is trying to broker a settlement. Zahle will test its ability to guarantee peace for Christians who accept its political and military protection.

Expressing faith in Syria, Zahle Parliamentarian Joseph Kaffa, a Christian government minister, said the pact made the city a "model for the Lebanon of the future" — with no militia and patrolled only by Lebanese police backed by Syrian troops.

"We have paid dearly in the war economically and in young lives," the Falangist official told Reuters. "We have lost about 600 young men." Hobeika told us to save ourselves.

Archbishop Andre Haddad, who headed a committee negotiating with Syria, said: "Zahle was the weak spot for the Christians."

"We were linked to the Falangists and 'Lebanese Forces' in the war. Every time Christian forces exerted pressure on the Shi'ites elsewhere, we were hampered... like a hostage city."

In 1981, when the "Lebanese Forces" from Beirut challenged Syria by taking over Zahle, encircling Syrian troops shelled it for three months. In February 1984, as the Lebanese army pounded Beirut's Muslim suburbs, it took 3,200 shells in a day.

Last month, after Zahle was again shelled, the committee approached Syrian officers and was told it could have peace if the Fal-

angist militias disbanded. Haddad said.

"The Syrians said 'when there were no armed men in Zahle and we enter, we guarantee no party will harm you,'" he added. "Everyone agreed, including the Falangists and President Gemayel."

Falangist fighters handed their guns to police, put away their uniforms and shut all offices except Falangist headquarters, formally ending the "Lebanese Forces" presence.

"I think it is the first time in the Lebanese war that a sectarian party has kept its word and handed over its arms," a senior city police officer told Reuters.

"I think what has been done in Zahle in collecting weapons is an experiment for all Lebanon."

Haddad said a car bomb that killed 12 people in Zahle as the pact was finalised was set by outside groups unhappy with the Syrian-Christian agreement and "the march to peace that has started in Lebanon."

The agreement ends a state of siege that isolated Zahle for years. Now Syrian troops have taken over the road to Beirut, to let Zahliotes cross their lines and reach the capital, city leaders say.

"The Zahle agreement is a sign and a test for our party and for the Syrians," the Falangist said. "It is very important for the future of Lebanon." Hobeika agrees. He is a very intelligent leader and he certainly wants to end the war. If the agreement is an example for the country, we are very happy."

Gulf Arab states to tighten security

RIYADH (R) — Interior Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have agreed to tighten collective security measures, GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara said Wednesday.

In a statement after a two-day meeting of the ministers, he said they "reiterated their determination to collectively confront all threats endangering the region's security and stability... and danger threatening any (GCC) country is a menace to all."

The statement did not specify what new steps would be taken.

The talks followed an upsurge of air, sea and ground action in the five-year war between Iraq and Iran and recent bomb explosions

in Kuwait, which heightened the concern of GCC members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar.

Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad, who chaired the meeting, said in his opening address that "the area has been subjected to events which aim at undermining our sovereignty. We have to face these threats collectively."

GCC sources said a proposed common security pact, which Kuwait dislikes, was not specifically discussed by the ministers. Diplomats say Kuwait objects to clauses which would allow GCC member states to pursue criminals across each other's borders.

Irish defence minister holds talks in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Irish Defence Minister Patrick Cosgrave met Wednesday with his Lebanese counterpart, Adel Ossseian, and was scheduled to visit Irish peace-keeping troops in South Lebanon. Irish embassy sources said Wednesday.

Mr. Cosgrave arrived in Beirut Tuesday for a five-day visit to Lebanon.

The minister, accompanied by Irish Ambassador Jeremy Cunniff, met Mr. Ossseian and the Lebanese army commander, Gen. Michel Aoun, at the Defence Ministry in suburban Yuzze Wednesday.

He was to fly by helicopter later to the south to visit the 700-man Irish battalion of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Mr. Cosgrave's visit came amid calls by the Lebanese government for the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate which expires on Oct. 19.

The 10-nation, 5,700-man UNIFIL has been stationed in South Lebanon since Israel's withdrawal from that area in 1978 following its first invasion of the country.

Newspapers quoted Mr. Cosgrave as telling Mr. Ossseian when he arrived that he supports renewing UNIFIL's mandate for another six months if the force's presence serves peace-keeping efforts in Lebanon.

Lebanon last week embarked on a campaign to bring the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to support its call for renewing UNIFIL's mandate.

U.S. holds man for trying to export tracking devices

NEW YORK (AP) — A Syrian-born Brazilian businessman has been indicted for allegedly trying to ship sophisticated infrared military tracking devices to Syria.

In a two-count indictment Tuesday, George Zac Zac, 39, of Sao Paulo, Brazil, was accused of trying to export three tracking devices and one ground support system for the devices to Syria.

The indictment, which is a listing of criminal charges, alleged he violated the arms export control act.

Zac Zac also was accused of lying on a government form that stated the equipment's final destination was Brazil instead of the Syrian Defence Ministry.

If convicted of illegal export, he faces a maximum sentence of two years imprisonment and \$100,000 in fines, said federal prosecutor Raymond J. DeBrie. He was being held on \$200,000 bond Wednesday.

None of the devices left the country, officials said.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	
MAIN CHANNEL	
17:00	Koran
17:30	Cartoons
17:35	Children's Programmes
18:30	Electronic Office
19:00	Local Agricultural Programme
19:25	Programme Review
19:30	News Programme: The Week's Event
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:00	Tomorrow's programmes
21:30	Arabic Play
23:00	News in Arabic
23:10	Play Contd.
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme: Les ardeurs du lève
19:00	News in French
19:15	le vent du large
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:30	No Place Like Home
21:00	Towards 2000
21:10	Flying Doctors
22:00	News in English
22:15	Fox Mystery Theatre
RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz. AM & 99.9 KHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 774111-15	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
11:00	News Bulletin
11:30	News Bulletin
12:00	Pop Session
12:30	News Summary
13:00	Pop Session
13:30	News Bulletin
14:00	News Bulletin
14:15	Talking Points
15:00	Concert Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	25 Years of Rock
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Special Features
18:35	From the Holy Koran
19:00	Newsdesk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
20:30	Evening Show Contd.
21:00	Evening Show Contd.
21:30	Evening Show Contd.

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITION	
* An art exhibition by Bassem Nassef at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
* An exhibition of great works of Victor Hugo, daily at the French Cultural Centre.	
* A special printing exhibition by a number of Jordanian artists, organised by the Jordanian Cine-Club, at Petra Bank Gallery, Wadi Yagor (daily 09:00-14:00 and 16:00-19:00)	
CINEMA	
* "Les Miserables" part one — at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	
American Centre 644371	
American Centre Library 641520	
British Council 636147-8	
French Cultural Centre 637009	
Goethe Institute 641923	
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre 642049	
Turkish Cultural Centre 637777	
Haya Ara Centre 650195	
Arabian Youth City 657181	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 644231	
Amman Municipal Library 636111	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Politico Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Jafra (Canaanite Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists artists. Manastash, Jabbal Lubdabab. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	
1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 642420.	
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 years old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.	
SERVICE CLUBS	
Lebanese Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.	
Lions Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.	
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.	
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.	
Royal Automobile Club. Jabbal Amman. Eight Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman. Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lubdabab. 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Husein. 661757.	
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox) Jabbal. 625541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman. 678066.	
Armenian Catholic Church. Ashrafieh. 717131.	
Armenian Orthodox Church. Ashrafieh. 717261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Jabbal. 717151.	
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Smeisani. 816534. 817534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church. Jabbal Amman. 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smir). Tel. 811293.	
PRAYER TIMES	
05:00	Fajr
06:24	Sunrise
12:51	Dhuhr
16:08	Asr
18:53	Maghreb
20:01	Isha

FOR FRIDAY	
JORDAN TELEVISION	
MAIN CHANNEL	
18:00	Koran
18:30	Children's Programme
19:00	Children's Programme
19:30	Children's Programme
19:45	Science World
20:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
20:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
22:00	News in English
22:15	Magruder and Loui
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
17:30	Un déjeuner sur l'herbe
19:00	News in French
19:15	French Varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Science World
20:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
20:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
22:00	News in English
22:15	Magruder and Loui
RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz. AM & 99.9 KHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
11:00	News Bulletin
11:30	News Bulletin
12:00	Pop Session
12:30	News Summary
13:00	Pop Session
13:30	News Bulletin
14:00	News Bulletin
14:15	Talking Points
15:00	Concert Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	25 Years of Rock
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Special Features
18:35	From the Holy Koran
19:00	Newsdesk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
20:30	Evening Show Contd.
21:00	Evening Show Contd.
21:30	Evening Show Contd.

23:00	News in Arabic
23:10	Arabic Series
01:00	Religious Programme
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
17:30	Un déjeuner sur l'herbe
19:00	News in French
19:15	French Varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Science World
20:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
20:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:00	Comedy: Charles in Charge
21:30	Comedy: Charles in Charge
22:00	News in English
22:15	Magruder and Loui
RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz. AM & 99.9 KHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW	
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09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
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15:30	News Summary
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16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	25 Years of Rock
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Special Features
18:35	From the Holy Koran
19:00	Newsdesk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
20:30	Evening Show Contd.
21:00	Evening Show Contd.
21:30	Evening Show Contd.

JUEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Juoen Alia International Airport (100/1200-5, where it should always be verified).	
ARRIVALS	
10:15	Aqaba (RJ)
10:30	Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Dubai Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:45	Cairo (RJ)
10:45	Jeddah (RJ)
10:50	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00	Paris, Athens (RJ)
11:45	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
12:30	Istanbul (TK)
13:00	Muscat, Sharjah, Bahrain (GF)
14:45	Cairo (RJ)
14:55	Kuwait (RJ)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Budharan (RJ)
18:30	Kuwait (RJ)
18:30	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
18:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:40	Athens (RJ)
18:50	London (RJ)
18:55	Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM)
19:05	Athens, Damascus (OA)
19:15	London, Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
00:35	London, Baghdad (JA)
01:25	Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
06:20	Frankfurt (LH)
06:40	Aqaba (RJ)
06:40	Damascus, Paris (AF)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:15	Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:30	Athens (RJ)
13:00	Paris, London (RJ)
13:15	Frankfurt, Brussels (LH)
13:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
13:30	Istanbul (TK)
13:30	Kuwait (RJ)
13:30	Masjira (RJ)
14:15	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:30	Cairo, Muscat (MS)
15:35	Kuwait (RJ)
16:00	Baghdad (IA)
16:00	Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
16:30	Dhahran, Frankfurt (RJ)
16:30	Kuwait (RJ)
16:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:00	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
21:00	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
21:15	Jeddah (RJ)
Ahead 12:45 Alia's Adventures in Wonderland 12:50 News Summary: Sounds of the Seventies 13:15 Merchant Navy Programme 13:30 Good Friday 13:45 News Summary 14:00 World News: News about Britain 14:15 in the Mesopotamia 14:20 A Letter from Northern Ireland 14:25 A Letter from Northern Ireland 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio News: 15:15 Jazz for the Aspiring 15:20 Sports Round-up 15:30 Outlook: News Summary 15:35 John Peel 17:00 News Summary: Voyage to the Holy Land 17:45 Letterbox 18:00 Radio News: 18:15 Desert Land Dances 19:00 World News: 19:05 Commentary 19:15 Seaside in Action 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:05 A Letter from England 20:10 Haddad and the Oration 20:20 Book Choice 20:45 Sports Round-up 21:00 Music from the Movies 21:30 Music from the Movies 22:00 News Summary: Voyage to the Holy Land 22:45 Stock Market Report 22:45	
WEATHER	
It will be normal, Northwesterly moderate winds will be freshening at times. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.	
Low high temperature in deg.C. Amman 17/29 Aqaba 19/30 Cairo 24/34 Deserts 18/35 Jordan Valley 22/34	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 29 per cent, Aqaba 29 per cent.	
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Wednesday rates Local retail rates in ffs Bahraini dinar 170/145 Dutch guilder 120/31 Egyptian pound 253/3 French franc 44/4 Israeli sheqel 365/3 Japanese yen (for 100) 163/4 Kuwaiti dinar 1290/1296 Lebanese lira 21/1 Omani riyal 1136/6 Saudi riyal 107/1 Swiss franc 108/108 Swedish crown 46/4 Swiss franc 164/4 Syrian lira 32/6 U.S. dollar 107/1 U.K. sterling pound 523/7 U.S. dollar 392/6 W. German mark 135/2	
REGULAR LINE SHIPS DOCKING AT Aqaba port:	
— Nasad — Golden Abiljan — Blue Africa — Allamania	
Amn Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 622324-9 at your service.	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	

EMERGENCIES	
Amman emergency 891228 Amman civil defence 198, 199 Civil Defence Invt 271293, 273131 Civil Defence Jawicemh 770733 Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198 First aid 63624 Blood bank 778303 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 622030-3 Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777 Police headquarters 636141 Traffic police 8963901 Electric Power Co. 6363814, 624881 Municipal water complaints 771258 Jueen Alia Int. Airport (08) 5333060	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN: Dr. Zain Zaghloul 638591 Dr. Mohamamad Al Horati 898552 Al Salan pharmacy 636730 Khalaf pharmacy 778653 Jadiri pharmacy 669448 Al Eblah pharmacy 661589 Al Attar pharmacy 777712 Hala pharmacy 778911 Al Jiq pharmacy 896491 Al Sadi pharmacy 655266	
TAXIS:	
Husseini taxi 721776 Khaloud taxi 646888 Bassam taxi 811057 Ali taxi 621141 Khayyam taxi 641541 Mashhour taxi 656742	
IRBID:	
Dr. Amil Abu Eidat 244468 Tah pharmacy 273160	
ZAR JA:	
Dr. Izidine Shetaya (—) Al Shaker Pharmacy (—)	
GENERAL	
Jordan Television 773111/19 Jordan 774111/19 Ministry of Tourism 642311 Al-Muasher Hospital 6672279 The Islamic, Abadi 66612737 Al-Ani, Abadi 6646146 Jordan and Middle East calls 12 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511226 Army, Marfa 8916115 Repair service 17	
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in ffs per kg.	
Apple 160/130 Lemon (yellow) 180/150 Apple (American) 380/340 Banana 300/260 Banana (Mukammal) 250/220 Beans 300/200 Onion (dry) 150/120 Carrot 180/120 Cauliflower 150/120 Cucumber (large) 200/150 Cauliflower (small) 250/200 Eggplant (large) 220/170 Eggplant (small) 220/170 Figs (green) 230/180 Garlic (without leaves) 360/300 Grapes 220/180 Jawar 350/300	
12:00	Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (MS)
13:15	Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (RJ)
16:10	Jeddah (SV)
16:15	Baghdad (JA)
16:15	Aqaba (RJ)
18:30	Larnaca (RJ)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
18:40	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:40	Athens (RJ)
18:50	London, Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
19:20	Brussels, Frankfurt (LH)
19:25	Istanbul (TK)
21:00	Frankfurt (LH)
21:25	Athens (OA)
01:25	Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
07:40 Larnaca, Amsterdam (KLM) 07:50 Athens (OA) 08:00 Aqaba (RJ)	
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 13:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 13:45 Larnaca, Zurich (SR) 13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 13:15 Cairo (MS) 13:30 Larnaca (RJ) 13:30 Istanbul (TK) 14:00 Paris (AF) 14:15 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:35 Kuwait (RJ) 15:30 Aqaba (RJ) 15:30 Dhahran (RJ) 15:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 21:00 Cairo (RJ) 21:10 Baghdad (RJ) 21:15 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 21:20 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	

Crown Prince confers with U.K. defence team

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday conferred with a delegation from the Royal College for Defence Studies in the United Kingdom.

He reviewed with the delegation members the general situation in the Middle East, particularly the occupied Arab territories. He also spoke in detail on Israeli settlement policies in the occupied territories and its measures designed to Judaize Arab territory and evict Arab inhabitants from their homes.

British ambassador Arthur John Coles was present at the meeting.

Earlier the delegation called on Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib and were briefed on Jordan's policies with regard to the Middle East question and the efforts being made to establish peace in the region.

Mr. Khatib told the delegation Jordan supports a call for holding an international conference to find a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem.

He said that the Jordanian-Palestinian accord of Feb. 11 demonstrates Jordan's genuine intentions towards the establishment of peace and safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

During the meeting, the minister made a general review of Middle East developments to the delegation, led by Admiral H.M. Balfour, and then replied to questions put to him by members of the delegation.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan receives a delegation from Britain's Royal College for Defence Studies in Amman Wednesday (Petra photo)

Jordan, Britain reportedly to sign arms deal during Thatcher's visit

LONDON (J.T.) — The purchase of a £270 million arms package from the United Kingdom is likely to be finalised during British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's current visit to Jordan, according to the London-based Middle East Economic Digest (MEED).

The order, involving contracts for up to 100 U.K. firms, will be signed during the visit, but financing will be settled two or three weeks later, according to MEED which quoted government officials and bankers.

The magazine said that details of the military items in the package have not been disclosed, but reports suggest it will include tank ammunition, thermal observation

equipment for tanks, an electronic tactical battlefield system and air defence equipment.

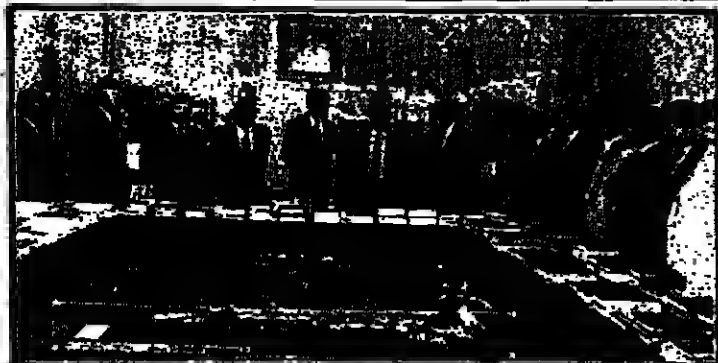
In its Sept. 14 edition MEED said that Jordan is known to be interested in armoured reconnaissance vehicles and fighter interceptor aircraft, but these items may be supplied by the United States or France.

The credit line for the military deal is backed by the U.K.'s Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), and the mandate to arrange the finance has gone to Morgan Grenfell and Company and Midland Bank — both of the U.K. — and Arab Bank Investment Company, the merchant banking affiliate of Amman-based Arab Bank, the

report said. It said that France is also in the final stages of negotiation for a FF 2,500 million weapons package, involving up to three contractors. Aerospatiale is expected to supply helicopters and Thomson-CSF electronic equipment.

It said that French financing comprises separate packages for each main contractor, backed by Compagnie Francaise d'Assurance pour le Commerce Extérieur (Coface).

So far, MEED said, no bank has been appointed to arrange the finance, but those likely to be involved include Aerospatiale's main banker, Credit Lyonnais, Thomson's banker, Banque Paribas, and Banque Indosuez.



University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali receives a gift of 300 books from the USIS, presented by U.S. Ambassador Paul Boeker during a ceremony at the University Wednesday (Petra photo)

University of Jordan gets 300 books from USIS

AMMAN (Petra) — The United States Information Service (USIS) in Amman Wednesday presented a gift of scientific books and references to the University of Jordan.

The gift of 300 books was presented by U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul Boeker to university President Abdul Salam Al Majali.

The ambassador expressed hope for continued cooperation between Jordanian educational institutions and U.S. scientific centres.

For his part, Dr. Majali voiced appreciation and gratitude for the gift which, he said, will promote education and increase the knowledge of students in the faculties of medicine, nursing and pharmacy.

"The University of Jordan seeks to bolster scientific and cultural cooperation with scientific centres around the world," Dr. Majali said.

Mr. Boeker and Dr. Majali discussed ways for promoting relations between Jordanian and U.S. universities.

The presentation ceremony was attended by several deans of the university.

UNRWA seeks help to overcome flour shortage

AMMAN (J.T.) — UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees) has been negotiating with host and donor governments to overcome a shortage of flour for distribution to 103,000 special hardship cases, according to a press release received in Amman Wednesday.

The shortage was caused by delays in delivery of donated flour and has caused a temporary reduction in the flour ration to hardship cases, the UNRWA press release said.

The Jordanian government quickly responded to UNRWA's appeal with an offer to lend the agency flour to maintain the flour ration in Jordan. UNRWA will repay the government when flour shipments arrive in November or

early December, the release said. The government of the Syrian Arab Republic has also offered to assist the agency to overcome the current flour shortage.

In Lebanon, UNRWA has been able to buy limited additional supplies of flour although transport problems are making it extremely difficult to deliver the flour to UNRWA's central warehouse in Beirut.

Also in Lebanon, the European community has given UNRWA 1,640 tons of flour to help overcome the shortage.

In the West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA is negotiating to buy flour in order to restore the regular flour ration, the press release said.

Meeting to discuss implementation of social development strategy

TUNIS (Petra) — A consultative committee on a pan-Arab comprehensive development strategy opened meetings here Wednesday.

In its two-day deliberation, the committee is expected to make a detailed and intensified study of the present Arab social development situation in the Arab World and work out a programme for implementing a pan-Arab strategy in this respect.

Among the topics included within this study are the status of the Arab family, education, vocational training and social welfare.

Food and health security will also be included within the study in addition to programmes for social development for the Palestinian people.

The meetings are being held at the Arab League Headquarters here and attended by Arab delegates including Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan who is representing His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Jordan to take part in London tourism fair

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Tourism Authority (JTA) will take part in an International Tourism Fair to open in London on Nov. 27, according to an official announcement here Wednesday.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Bahri director of JTA's Marketing Division will serve as director of Jordan's pavilion at the fair.

Another announcement said that Jordan will take part in the 23rd meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) which is due to open in Sofia, Bulgaria on Oct. 8th.

The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the four-day UNESCO General Assembly meeting and it will be led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahhab Al Majali.

The Jordanian delegation will include representatives of the ministries of information, culture and tourism, and the Royal Scientific Society.

It was also announced here that Jordan will take part in an international conference on health and combating drug addiction which will be organised by the Norwegian Red Cross Society in Norway in cooperation with the General League of the Red Cross and Red Cross Societies.

Jordan will be represented at the conference, due to open on Sept. 30, by a two-member delegation.

The three-day conference is expected to discuss the effects of drugs on society and the role that Red Cross and Red Crescent societies can play in fighting addiction.

Chinese youth team visits University of Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Visiting Chinese youth delegation paid a visit Wednesday to the University of Jordan where they met with the university's dean of students' affairs Hani Abdul Rahman.

Dr. Abdul Rahman briefed the delegation on the students' societies and their role in strengthening their extra-curricular activities.

The delegation watched a documentary showing the university's activities and departments and visited the general library, the Islamic Cultural Centre and the university's campus.

Jordanian-Syrian Company to expand joint projects

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The board of directors of the Jordanian-Syrian Company for Industry (JSCI) ended a two-day meeting here to discuss joint projects and ways of expanding them.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf, under-secretary of the Jordanian Ministry of Industry and Trade who is chairman of the company's board of directors.

The joint company has launched several industrial projects, one of which is manufacturing floor carpets, now being established at the Syrian city of Suwayda with a JD 8 million capital.

Mr. Saqqaf and the board members Wednesday visited the project site and inspected preparatory arrangements for starting its operations.

In a statement later Mr. Saqqaf said that the factory is now in its experimental production stage

and is expected to begin marketing its products next summer.

The productive capacity of the new factory is three million metres of carpet annually, Mr. Saqqaf said. "The quality will be among the best in local markets, and the material will be sold at competitive prices."

During the two-day meeting in Damascus the board discussed a project for setting up a factory to produce pesticides in Syria with a JD 8 million capital to be shared equally by the two countries, according to Mr. Saqqaf.

He said that the meeting also revised the work and activity of the White Cement Factory in Jordan, another joint Jordanian-

Syrian venture, which started marketing its products in Syria and Jordan.

The JSCI talks followed close on the heels of another meeting in Damascus by the board of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company.

The talks resulted in agreement on the need for paying up the rest of the company's unpaid capital over the coming three years. The company's overall capital is JD 8 million, but only JD 5 million have been paid up so far, according to Mr. Bassam Jaqsh, the company chairman. Mr. Jaqsh took part in the meetings, co-chaired by the transport ministers of Syria and Jordan.

He said the company, established in 1976, now owns 360 lorries but a decision by the board was taken for purchasing an additional 50 lorries in view of the growing demand and the increase in the company's operations.

Committee appeals for contribution to refugees in drought hit Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A National Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People, formed Tuesday, has issued an appeal to the public and to organisations, companies, banks and other institutions to offer contributions for the Sudanese refugees.

It said that contributions will alleviate the sufferings of the refugees who face famine as a result of drought in their country. The statement said that financial contributions can be handed into the Central Bank of Jordan and its branches in the Kingdom, the Arab Bank, the Petra Bank and the Islamic Bank and their various branches.

As to the in-kind contributions, the statement said, they can be handed to departments of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and to all branches of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan.

In Irbid, Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin has set up a special relief committee presided over by himself and comprising Irbid's Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubaishat and other key figures and heads of local departments in Irbid Governorate.

A statement said that banks and GUVS centres in the governorate will start receiving contributions immediately.

The move and the national committee's statement followed an appeal by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan addressed to the Arab and Islamic Worlds to extend help to the Sudanese people now facing the consequences of drought and famine, following his visit to Sudan last week where he toured refugee camps and saw thousands of displaced people.

Islamic committee to hold meetings in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — An Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) committee charged with handling an agreement on social security matters among OIC member nations will open a two-day meeting in Amman next Monday.

Dr. Mahdi Al Farhan, director general of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) said that the committee will discuss a draft form of the agreement which is designed to safeguard the rights of workers from OIC nations when they move for employment in different OIC countries.

A decision on this agreement was taken by the committee at its meeting at Kuala Lumpur towards the end of last year, Mr. Farhan said.

He said that the committee comprises delegates from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco, Libya, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Jordan, OIC and the Ankara Islamic Centre.

IFAD helping to promote Jordan's agricultural project

AMMAN (Petra) — The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is currently helping the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) to implement a project designed to promote the work of agricultural cooperatives in high and rain-fed regions. JCO spokesman Adnan Yassin has said.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Yassin, who is JCO's director of projects, said that the project being carried out in Irbid, Jerash, Salt, Amman, Madaba, Karak and Tafleh regions is progressing very satisfactorily.

According to the JCO director the project has helped in increasing agricultural production, reducing the deficit in the national balance of trade, boosting the income of small farmers and improving their economic and social conditions.

He said that IFAD is contributing \$10.6 million to the project which came in loans to 7,525 small farmers in high regions to help them produce cereals, vegetables, and fruits in addition to raising cattle and sheep.

The IFAD loans also boosted JCO's capability to assist farmers in their work and to introduce to the high regions' modern machinery, agricultural guidance, fodder and other basic requirements for agricultural production, Mr. Yassin said.

He said that the project entailed building a station for maintaining agricultural machinery in Irbid, purchasing 50 tractors to be loaned to farmers and building two central warehouses to help boost marketing in Amman and Irbid. The project also entailed buying two lorries and six small vehicles for the JCO operations.

The JCO signed an agreement in 1981 undertaking to carry out the project in five years, but IFAD has been entrusted to supervise the project's implementation, Mr. Yassin said.

When completed, he added, the project is bound to help increase production of wheat, lentils, vegetables, olives, grapes, milk, lean meat and wool.

According to Mr. Yassin IFAD is helping the Agricultural Credit Corporation to implement a similar project in the Jordan Valley.

ADVERTISEMENT

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SPANISH CULTURAL CENTER

Spanish classes

The next course starts on Wednesday October 1. Registration from September 24, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

Spanish Cultural Center, Queen Zein St. Jabel Amman (First Circle), close to the Spanish Embassy.

A WARM WELCOME

We have the great honour to join
Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor
and the Jordanian people
in welcoming

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Mr. Denis Thatcher
on the occasion of their visit to Jordan, wishing Their Excellencies a nice stay.

Ahlan Wasahlan

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of Great Britain

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First floor unfurnished apartment in a very quiet area, consisting of:

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- C. One sitting room
- D. One dining room
- E. Kitchen, bathroom, small toilet, three verandas... etc.
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VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schurmann

Winds of change blowing in the Middle East

AUGUST, in America as in Europe, is traditionally a vacation month. And so in the media it is a time of "no news" in the news. September is the month when schools begin again, the work pace quickens, and the government moves to the end of the "fiscal" (or accounting) year. And so "news" is once again expected to appear in the news.

There was some news in August: the spreading black revolution in South Africa. But South Africa is far away from the United States. It is what we call a "moral" much more than a practical issue. There also was some fragmentary news about the terrible car bombings in Beirut. That news came and vanished quite fast. But this "little bit of news in the news"

is worth some comment.

I have been reading in Al Nahar about the situation in Beirut. I am amazed that Beirut airport should still function for the newspapers to get out. We do live in "one world" or what the Canadian media philosopher McLuhan called a "global village." I see the pictures of the explosions, the bodies thrown in the air, "as if an earthquake had struck them." And I read the statements of this and that and some other leader saying how horrible it is. And then I begin to reflect, to think.

If all the leaders of all the various factions say the car bombings are so terrible, then who committed these vile acts? Extremists? Foreign agents?

Or do the leaders lie? No one will ever establish the truth. But one thing is certain: Terrorism makes leaders look helpless, foolish, weak. Terrorism makes a mockery of leaders.

Terrorism shows how pitiful the government of Lebanon is. It also puts into question how much or how little any political leadership controls. Al Nahar has endless pictures of this and that and another meeting. And the words statements come rolling forth. But what does it all mean when a "global village" spreads such blood and destruction on streets that are similar to city streets anywhere in the world?

The terrorism is news, but the fact that it shows leadership without trousers is "no news." This "no news" also is true of

the U.S. A mantle of weakness has settled over the American government. It is strange how fast the strong Reagan administration of the first four years (1981-1984) is turning into a much-less-than-strong Reagan administration of the second four years. Reagan looks older, less certain.

This happened before his cancer surgery. It started, I think, when at the beginning of the year some of his strongest advisers resigned. He then hrought in different men who talked louder but do not seem to have the same strength of character as the earlier ones.

But now the weakness is being worsened by a growing attack from the rightwing. They are accusing the Reagan administration of being "too

soft" on Communism. They are angry about the summit meeting with Gorbachev. And they want Reagan to bring back the rightwingers into his inner political circle.

So far as the Middle East is concerned, this means that the U.S. has abandoned Lebanon. Washington seems to be saying: Let the Lebanese with some Syrian help clean up the mess themselves. And Washington seems to have abandoned its search for a solution to the Palestinian problem. The plan for a meeting with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation has collapsed. Fear of Israel and its supporters to the U.S. has again weakened the spine of the Reagan administration.

Terrorism is a political mes-

sage that says: Change everything, if it comes from the left. But it says: Change nothing, when it comes from the right. Today in Lebanon the terrorism seems to be saying: Change nothing. And the messages from Israel say the same: Change nothing. And the Reagan people so sink back into their natural conservative tendency to do nothing.

Will September bring some new news of activism? Will we see new terrorism from the left? Will there be new leadership? The hot days of summer are still here. It is much nicer to sit in the shade of a tree with a cool glass of fruit juice, looking at the sky, watching the distant mountains. But sooner or later the wind will come back.

Welcome Mrs. Thatcher

BECAUSE we highly value our friendship with the United Kingdom, we are more than happy to join in extending a warm welcome for Mrs. Margaret Thatcher on her visit to Jordan. The bonds of friendship between His Majesty King Hussein and the British Prime Minister are a source of pride to us. So are the strong ties between the two royal families of Jordan and Britain and our two peoples and governments.

Mrs. Thatcher's visit is significant in and of itself. It is the first of its kind by a British prime minister while in office, and it follows the successful and rewarding state visit to our country by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1984.

Beyond that, it is the meaning of the visit and the political circumstances, prevailing in this area and world wide, that give it added significance.

By deciding to come here, Mrs. Thatcher wanted to demonstrate her support for Jordan's balanced policies and for peace efforts in the Middle East. For this, we are grateful. And indeed we think there is much that Britain can do in this regard.

The circumstances prevailing in the region are difficult if not extraordinary, and we can only be heartened by Mrs. Thatcher's statement yesterday in which she stressed the urgency for forward movement in the peace process.

The question always was and still is largely that of how progress can be made, without wasting any more valuable time on procedural formulas, definitions and other trivialities that stand in our way.

Here is where Britain's support and encouragement is most needed. Mrs. Thatcher is in an extremely good position, we think, to add her considerable political weight to those sincere and genuine efforts by Jordan and the PLO to achieve progress in Middle East peace efforts. Needless to say, the British prime minister can exert enough influence on the Americans to get them to agree to opening the dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation so that all parties to the conflict can get down to handling the tougher questions ahead of them.

All things considered, this is not too much to ask of the British government. Britain, with its historical ties to this area and its deep understanding of its problems, can and must contribute positively to the search for a solution to the Palestinian problem. This London could do in its capacity as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, as an important member of the European Community and as a country that has special and strategic ties with the United States and the countries of the Middle East.

Once again, we are honoured to join His Majesty the King and the Jordanian people and government in welcoming Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Thatcher and the accompanying delegation, and wish them a fruitful and nice stay among friends.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Successful mediation

SAUDI ARABIA'S Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, who heads an Arab mediation committee to end differences among Arab states had described the Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Jeddah as positive and that both sides decided to meet again in mid-October.

This meeting held under an Arab umbrella, was a real success not only for Jordan and Syria but also for the mediation committee and the Casablanca summit which entrusted it with its mission.

Jordan feels satisfied with this constructive step because there is no alternative to meeting and dialogue if problems are to be solved and differences eliminated.

This dialogue should in fact be followed up by enlarged meetings by other Arab parties in a bid to end all differences not only between Jordan and Syria but also those that mar relations between Arab states.

The Arab nation has suffered a great deal due to the difference and disputes between governments over side issues, and only through dialogue and meaningful discussion can these problems be overcome. Needless to say that the differences had caused some Arab states to absent themselves from summit meetings and this has delayed joint Arab action.

Al Dustour: Promising result

A STATEMENT by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz about the outcome of the Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Jeddah calls for optimism.

The prince considered the meeting in itself a success and an achievement in view of the current strained inter-Arab relations. Of course this meeting and others which will follow cannot solve all problems, but it can be said that the meeting was a fruitful result of the Arab mediation committee and could pave the way for a positive dialogue between the two parties.

The Jordan and Syrian prime ministers have agreed on steps to be taken on the path towards creating a convenient climate conducive to good results and leading to reconciliation.

Both sides seem to have agreed to give priority to the Palestine issue and ways to bolster Arab countries solidarity in the face of Zionist aggression. All those who followed up the news about the Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Jeddah are no doubt full of hope that the two countries will at last walk the path of solidarity band in band and put their good services to the benefit of the Arab nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Hopes of reconciliation

THE POSITIVE results of the Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Jeddah constitute one step on a long way for reaching reconciliation and ending differences that marred relations between the two countries for more than five years. The meeting in itself represents a break of a barrier built to deepen the differences and cause further estrangement among brothers.

The meeting in Jeddah was held in a brotherly atmosphere and the discussions were serious and tackled the core of the causes of disputes and differences.

This forms a firm basis for starting a fruitful dialogue that can later lead to a total reconciliation and joint action.

We sincerely hope that the meetings will continue and will pave the ground for enlarged Arab meetings designed to bring about total reconciliation among various countries in the Arab World.

The market is better than a committee of three

By Dr. Nayef S. Zubi

THE DEBATE that surrounded the future of Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) in the Arabic press recently is rather important. It brings to the forefront the role of the private sector in Jordan, a role the Rifai cabinet is advocating. It is interesting, however, that at a time when the new cabinet is preaching the free enterprise gospel, and when it is setting its agrarian and development agenda, some of its close advisers do not hide their doubts about the private sector.

Those advisers call for an aggressive, supportive, and rather interventionist government policy towards agriculture, which they view as the saviour of Jordan's economic ills, and at the same time point to the limitations of tourism, because according to their reasoning, it is an import-based industry. Here I would argue that a reliable guarantee to Jordan's long-term survival lies in its ability to develop an ample middle class, and this would not come about without a dependable and genuine private sector.

It is fatuous to continue talking about the limitations and the inapplicability of the tenets of a competitive pricing system in Jordan. It is even more fatuous to continue the "Byzantine, and sterile type of argument: Is it the private sector that provides the background for stability, or is it the stability that provides the right environment for the private sector to flourish.

In an unpublished letter to the court minister, Mr. Adnan Abu

Odeh, Justin Dart, an American entrepreneurial genius, put it elegantly and nicely, when he said: "The Middle East's stability will hinge on the ability to develop a strong middle class. It is the strength of the private sector which will carry the weight. A stable environment is needed in order to promote the private sector, which will in turn increase stability". The arguments regarding the private sector parallel in spirit, and with no lack of coincidence, the reasoning that the Third World countries are not ready for democratic institutions and free social systems. That both the free market system, and the notions of democracy, civil liberties, and freedom of choice go hand in hand is of no surprise at all. One is a by-product of the other. The fight against one conceals the war against the other. Blaming deviant initial conditions, starting from the presence of rigid social structure, and ending with the existence of mal-distribution of wealth, is, in many cases, a pretext to perpetuate inefficiencies, preserve vested interests and support existing bureaucracies.

Economic units, be they households or firms, are not driven by patriotic motives or social conscience; they are driven by the maximisation of self-satisfaction and by the profit motive. Profit is not an evil spirit that should be hunted and persecuted; rather it is a reward for entrepreneurship and risk bearing. If the consumer is the final unit that economic systems

should strive to serve, and by its well being they are to be judged, then surely consumers are better served by lower prices and better products. A competitive system is the closest to achieving just that. Being a member in a public organisation does not necessarily translate to having a better sense of the general welfare or being wiser.

The complaints about the private sector, and the doubts about any useful role it might play, begs the question: Do we really have a genuine private sector, to put before trial, when we know that the government is the main purchaser, financier, and through a myriad of intervention policies, decides what forms of activities the private sector might undertake? The complaints that the private sector is changing Jordan's economy into a mediators' economy begs also the question: Are not activities that bring buyers and sellers closer together, through promoting informational efficiency, useful ones? Also true, the passion towards agrarian sector, and its need for a viable support, always stumbles with a simple and direct question: Why do we assume that the government and for that matter a representative agency or committee is better equipped than the market in channeling resources to the most rewarding activity?

The attitude towards tourism is another case that is plagued with misconceptions. The argument that "since many of the inputs that go into tourism, beginning with

Bulgarian meat and winding up with labour services, are imported, this industry could not be a viable economic source" has a serious conceptual problem. There is nothing wrong in importing inputs of production if we have a unique ability in combining them. Let alone the fact that one of those inputs is given to us by the virtue of historical coincidence. It is not as if the act of importing is bad, and that of exporting is good, and thus export everything and import nothing! People export, in order to be able to import, and the very act of importing, is an invitation for others to import. If we are importing goods and services that others have comparative advantage at producing, then obviously we are raising our standard of living, allowing a more efficient use of our resources towards producing goods and services at which we are better; by doing this, we can avert the distortive impact of border adjustments on different employment sectors. The act of border adjustments—quotas, tariffs, etc.—involve a redistribution of wealth among different sectors of the economy, and need more than a committee to decide upon it, and need not in the final analysis serve the basic unit to which economic activities are directed, namely consumers through lower prices and better products. In his "The Costs of Protectionism: Estimates of the Hidden Tax of Trade Restraints", Michael C. Munger, of the Centre for the Study of American Business at Washington

University of St. Louis, estimated the direct cost placed by tariffs, quantitative restrictions (quotas) and other restrictions, such as various "Buy American" programmes on U.S. consumers to be \$58.4 billion, which meant an average implicit tax cost of at least \$255 per American. The amount is an underestimate, given that not all protectionist barriers are identifiable or a matter of public record, given also that the measure neglects the long-term indirect, or dynamic costs involved.

Another dimension that is usually missing in the discussions related to the private sector's role in Jordan is its extreme importance in the long-term survival of Jordan as a political entity. The challenges that the peace efforts which are now underway, if successful, should not be ignored, and cannot be adequately dealt with without a viable private sector providing the necessary anchor to social and political stability, through developing an affluent middle class. The stability is not only assured by beefing up our military and security units, but also by the public subscribing to its importance, and this is only insured when many have their share of the pie; something an undisciplined private sector is best at providing.

Without Jordan's ability to parallel Western type institutions or at a minimum having them as possible goals that could be attained, Jordan long-term stability would be seriously undermined. Our ability to develop our academic, health, military, agrarian, and technological institutions, is much better served when a bigger role is given to the private sector. Finding refuge in political and social realities to justify inaction, does not make much of a sense, when we all know that the political leadership in this country is perurbed as we all are, by the public sector's slowness in dealing with the many aspects of life, and are genuinely searching for more effective and innovative means to increase efficiency. His Majesty King Hussein's image, charismatic leadership, and unparalleled ability to communicate with the outside world, amply documented by the Novaks in a recent Washington Post editorial, are basic elements in Jordan's stability. But King Hussein's uniqueness and the monarchy role in the stability of Jordan should also be supplemented by our determination to develop institutions that parallel those of the West, or even without going that far, parallel those of our neighbour to the West. Here the private sector bears the best promise. The question that the title of this article has put forward is still well posed here: Why do we tend to believe that a committee of three is better than the market?

The writer is a Jordanian scholar who lives and teaches business in the U.S. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

China's elders exit for new generation to take over power

By Graham Earnshaw

PEKING — Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping has taken a big stride along the road towards turning China into an economically advanced nation by finally convincing some octogenarian colleagues to step down.

The announcement on Monday that Marshal Ye Jianying, 88, and more than 100 other veteran Communist Party leaders were retiring marked the end of an era for Chinese politics.

China has been run for more than a decade by elderly leaders and plagued with the lack of a system for handing power from one generation to the next.

But now the old men are giving up their seats and making way for a more vigorous younger generation better trained to guide China into the 21st century.

Deng, 81, appears to have had a tough time getting them to go, particularly as he has no immediate plans to retire himself.

The departure of the old men moves China further away from violent revolution and the radicalism of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung, and towards the age of the technocrat.

A new generation of leaders is being groomed by Deng to carry on his policies that in the past six years have opened China up to the outside world, revived its flagging economy and brought a measure of political stability.

Although every step forward increases the permanence of the many reforms Deng has instituted since he took power in late 1978, the spectre of political turmoil after his death remains. Western analysts say.

The great nightmare for China is that there might be a rerun of the cultural revolution, the disastrous upheaval in the late 1960s masterminded by Mao.

China's present leadership says a second cultural revolution would be impossible, and there is no doubt that most of China's one billion people would disapprove of an encore.

But as long as there are officials

about who rose to power when Mao's constant revolution was sacred, or people who feel shorthanded by Deng's reforms, the seeds of upheaval remain.

Analysts say Deng is trying to prevent a second cultural revolution by giving as many people as possible a stake in his economic reforms.

On the other side, there are Communists who fear the young intellectuals Deng is pushing to the top may move China away from socialism and towards capitalism.

Deng is also trying to break Chinese politicians of what many see as their worst habit — the tendency to form factions which fight to place their representative in the top job.

"It is the emperor syndrome," one Westerner said. "China seems to need one strong man who dominates and guides. It used to be Mao, now it is Deng. And after Deng, there will sooner or later be someone else."

Deng and his people say the power struggles of the past are over for good and that China can look forward to a peaceful collective leadership after he is gone.

"The fact is that we will not know how permanent all the changes are until Deng has gone," one Westerner said. "How much of what we now see and how much of the momentum for further reform depends on his presence? We just don't know."

Deng is trying to place his people in positions of power and also wants to establish a system of retirement for senior officials, abolishing the "power until death" rule, which has been in force until now.

But there is some cynicism about what he is doing. His intentions are good, but in the end he is using the same methods of succession that Mao did," a diplomat said.

Mao said to his successor, Hua Guofeng: "With you in charge, I am at ease" — and that was his mandate for power. Deng is presenting his chosen successors in much the same terms."



NATO rift looms over negotiability of SDI

By Paul Taylor

BRUSSELS — Is "Star Wars" negotiable?

That central question, about President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) to devise a space-based defence against nuclear missiles may determine the future of arms control.

It may also cause deep rifts between the United States and its NATO partners, according to alliance diplomats.

With an accuracy that has rattled NATO officials, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has put his finger on the rawest nerve in the U.S.-European disarmament debate by raising the prospect of deep cuts in offensive weapons in exchange for a ban on the development of space weapons.

In an interview with Time magazine, Gorbachev has accepted that basic research cannot be stopped and called for a ban on the designing stage of space weapons.

Nobody in NATO knows whether the United States is prepared to strike such a bargain but West European governments clearly hope that in the end it will.

Powerful Reagan administration figures, led by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, were quick to dismiss the idea of trading away SDI even for major cuts in strategic missiles. Weinberger told visiting rep-

orters in Washington last week: "The Strategic Defence Initiative cannot and should not be a bargaining chip... giving up strategic defence is something the president has said repeatedly he's not prepared to do."

"One way or another, the hope that the president has of securing this great object for mankind, of being able to defend against these missiles, would not be given up," NATO diplomats say such statements, while they may unsettle West Europeans, would probably have to be made even if Washington were ultimately prepared to bargain away star wars.

"If the Americans want the grand trade-off, it would be very bad tactics to say so now," one diplomat said. "If the Russians were sure Reagan was prepared to give up SDI, they would be much less likely to make significant concessions on offensive systems."

Those West European NATO allies who have voiced support for the U.S. programme, notably Britain and West Germany, have been careful to confine their backing to the research phase, saying it is a prudent hedge against Soviet efforts in the field.

No European ally has expressed any enthusiasm for the idea of actually deploying a strategic defence, which would mean scrapping the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty. France, which has its own nuc-

lear arsenal, has gone further and expressed outright opposition to SDI.

NATO diplomats said Gorbachev, who is due to visit Paris before his Geneva summit with Reagan on November 19-20, was playing skillfully on these differences.

The new Kremlin leader was much better than his predecessors at selling Soviet policy positions to the Western public and had refined Moscow's previous blanket opposition to SDI to make it more attractive to the Europeans, they said.

"Frankly, Gorbachev has wiped the floor with us over the last month. The Americans will have to come up with some more positive response," one NATO official said.

NATO allies admit they are almost as much in the dark as the general public about Washington's ultimate aims with star wars.

"They brief us regularly, both the negotiators from Geneva and the SDI programme officials, but there's no real indication of whether and to what extent they will ultimately accept constraints," another official said.

The United States says it is keen to discuss SDI with the Soviets at the Geneva talks, which are officially said to aim at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on earth.

Diplomats say that what Washington seeks is a dialogue on ways of moving from the present purely-offensive nuclear balance to one combining offensive and defensive weapons, apparently presupposing some deployment of star wars systems.

Away from the negotiations, which resume on Thursday, a chorus of influential Americans are saying that cuts in offensive missiles would be largely meaningless and there is no alternative to phasing in strategic defence.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger acknowledged that a compromise along the lines traced by Gorbachev "would elicit an almost audible sigh of relief in the West."

However, in an article in the London Observer, he said that such agreements would work to America's disadvantage and would "tend to enshrine the Soviet capacity for civilian devastation or even a first disarming strike."

Rodney Jones, director of Nuclear Studies at Washington's Georgetown University Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said in a speech at NATO headquarters last week that constraints on offensive forces had reached a dead end.

"I think the U.S. may be sufficiently inclined to want to keep open the option of one day deploying strategic defences," he said.

Queen Noor Al Hussein Foundation: A new institution for enhancing social development

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Sept. 4, Royal Decree establishing Queen Noor Al Hussein Foundation said the new institution was created to help develop all sections of the Jordanian society, through the sponsorship of voluntary and humanitarian projects designed to achieve the hopes and aspirations of the Jordanian people in the fields of culture, education, and social development.

"The foundation will support government endeavours for achieving a better quality of life for Jordanians and creating a model state enjoying stability and security," the royal decree said. According to officials close to the foundation, the new institution will include 21 cultural, educational, social development and child and family welfare programmes sponsored and initiated by Her Majesty Queen Noor, and other projects to be launched by the Queen in the future.

In the Royal Decree, His Majesty King Hussein ordered the formation of the foundations board of trustees in order to guide and supervise its work. The board was selected and is chaired by Queen Noor, and includes as members: Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Hazem Nuseibeh; Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour; Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh; former Minister of Economy Anis Muasher; former Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufit; Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran; Chairman of the Board of Directors of Alia, the Royal Jordan Airline, Mr. Ali Ghandour; Mrs. Nawzat Zaid Shaker, wife of Gen. Zaid Ibn Shaker; Mrs. Noor Izzeddin, wife of former ambassador to Washington Ibrahim Izzeddin; Pension Fund Director Bassam Al Saket; Deputy chairman of the Arab Bank's Board of Directors Khaled Shomari; former Director of the Budget Department Sami Gammouh; businessman Ahmad Mango and Jaafar Toukan, and Editor of Al Dustour Newspaper Mahmoud al Sharif. According to the officials, Al Noor Foundation is composed of two sectors: the voluntary sector and the foundation's voluntary sector.

The foundation's voluntary sector includes the above-named board of trustees, which has the following main responsibilities: to formulate the foundation's policy and strategy; to attract financial support from local, Arab, and international sources and to approve the agreements into which the foundation enters.

The board also has the authority to establish branches for the foundation or to set up new institutions for specific purposes. It may create ad hoc committees or other supervisory boards to administer the foundation's programmes.

The foundation's voluntary sector also includes voluntary organisations in the form of standing steering committees and societies that take direct responsibility for implementing projects. Independent voluntary organisations which Queen Noor patronises will also help with projects and activities in which they have direct interest and expertise. These include the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW), the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC), the New Buildings and Architectural Heritage Committee, the National Federation for the Education of Children, SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan and the Haya Cultural Centre Society.

The foundation's permanent staff consists of a director, a management team, an executive committee and administrative personnel.

The executive committee consists of five members from the foundation's board of trustees: a Secretary-General, who will serve as the foundation's director, a treasurer, a secretary and two regular members.

The foundation's funding and revenues will consist of membership fees, donations, grants or bequests from local, Arab, and international individuals and institutions, proceeds from projects or special functions organised by the foundation, and from any other sources of income as approved by the board of trustees. However, each of the foundation's projects will have an independent budget, while the foundation as a whole will have its own independent budget which is approved and supervised by the board of trustees.

The Al Noor Foundation has numerous aims and objectives, among which are to serve the Jordanian citizen in the fields of culture, education, and social development, to care for the Jordanian citizen and family and to improve the quality of life in Jordan.

The foundation will seek to achieve its objectives by:

- Cooperating with public and private institutions to realise national development plans.
- Conducting and supporting research studies and surveys.
- Establishing and supporting private educational, cultural, and social institutions.
- Organising educational, cultural, and social activities and programmes as well as encouraging outstanding creative work by institutions and individuals.
- Attracting financial support for the foundation's projects from local Arab and international organisations.
- Supporting any other projects that would help the foundation realise its objectives and goals.

The projects of the Al Noor Foundation are grouped under two major associations: the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education (RECE); and the Royal Association for Social Development (RASD).

There are seven educational projects and programmes under RECE's supervision six of which are already operating and one will be established in the near future.

Information booklet on the foundation describes the aims and objectives of each project:

- The RECE Scholarship Programme: this allows a select group of young Jordanians to pursue higher education in specialised fields relevant to Jordan's development needs. The endowment selects students according to rigorous academic standards, secures university acceptance and follows up their academic progress.
- The Jordan-Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Programme: This programme permits mid-career and/or senior management-level Jordanians to make four to six-week study tours of the United States, during which they interact with their counterparts in American institutions. Jordanian fellows in the past years have included specialists in the fields of nursing, agriculture, education, thermal power generation, municipal administration, youth programmes, hospital administration, agriculture and credit cooperatives, phosphate marketing and forensic science. Jordan sends five fellows to the U.S. every year.

— Research Programmes: RECE has already carried out a manpower survey of Jordan's future professional, technical, and administrative personnel needs. This survey served both the pri-



The Queen cares for the old....

vate and public institutions concerned in this field. RECE also used the survey's results in developing criteria to select candidates for the student scholarship programme and the Jordan-Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship programme.

— Training Courses: The endowment sponsors an annual programme (inaugurated in spring, 1984) to upgrade the proficiency of English language teachers, in cooperation with other institutions working in the field.

— Experimental Education Projects: RECE sponsored the introduction of the Montessori Method into the elementary school systems of some primary schools in Jordan. A teacher training programme was also conducted to facilitate the administration and application of this method in both private and governmental institutions on an experimental basis.

— The Pioneer Programme for Gifted Students: aims to develop the intellectual and creative abilities of gifted children. RECE has lent its support to this project and has worked with the Salt Development Corporation, which originally initiated this programme to train gifted students who are at the secondary level of education. The selected students receive instruction to supplement their regular government educational curriculum and meet in a school, equipped with special computer and language study laboratories.

— The Jubilee School: A special school will be established in honour of King Hussein's service to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and in acknowledgement of his deep commitment to the country's education.

The school will also admit a limited number of Arab students from neighbouring countries. Each classroom will accommodate no more than 25 students. The school will be built on 210 dunums of land adjacent to the Royal Scientific Society and the students will sit for the general secondary examination certificate Tawjihi and other required exams.

Facilities in the school will include modern science and language laboratories, art and technical workshops, a library, a 600-seat multipurpose hall, a gymnasium, two swimming pools and sports fields.

The cultural programmes supervised by the RECE includes two established and two planned projects.

— The Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts: a five-year-old international cultural and artistic event held annually at the Greco-Roman city of Jerash. The programme was initiated by Queen Noor in 1981 and three

years later a higher national committee for the festival was formed by a Royal Decree. Queen Noor is the chairman of the committee. The festival has grown in both size and scope and is offering performances of local, regional and international forms of drama, classical and pop music, classical and modern dance, popular folklore shows, handicrafts exhibitions and art displays, poetry recitals and children's activities.

The success of the festival has made it a landmark in the country's cultural and artistic movement.

— The Jordan Society: a non-profit organisation in the U.S. that is designed to promote mutual understanding and awareness between the people of Jordan and the U.S. through exchange of culture and art.

Programmes of the society have included study tours by U.S. mayors, university professors and church and community leaders to seminars and conferences in Jordan, exhibitions and musical performances, exchange visits between American and Jordanian intellectuals, the sponsorship of a music conservatory, and provisions of loans and grants for exchange programme students.

— The Queen's Award for the Fine Arts: will be granted to Jordanian artists who will be invited to present their work at an annual arts festival. The merits of the submitted work will be assessed by a panel of experts and special scholarships or other prizes will be awarded by Queen Noor. Later the exhibitions will tour various parts of the country.

— Music Conservatory: to be established by the RECE in cooperation with the Jordan Society to teach violin to children between six and 18 years of age. Teachers who will teach at the conservatory are trained in the Rolland Action Method, a highly successful technique which emphasises natural body movements and note reading. The conservatory will be equipped with two pianos, fifty violins and sufficient classroom materials to accommodate 45 students.

Projects initiated by the RASD include children's programme and family and community projects. There are currently six projects in the development stage as well as two projects that already exist.

— The Arab Children's Congress: an annual pan-Arab cultural programme in which children are invited to Amman from many Arab countries in order to gain an appreciation of cultural factors linking the Arab peoples. The event was initiated by Queen Noor following an Arab summit held in Amman in 1980.

— Children's Club: — RASD encourages and supports children's clubs which offer artistic, recreational, and cultural activities. Several of these clubs were already established by voluntary women's organisations in cooperation with municipal and rural councils.

— The S.O.S. Children's Village: a community in which a normal home environment will be provided to children who have lost their parents or whose parents are unable to care for them. The construction and equipment of the Jordan Village has been financed by German and Austrian donations and the SOS Village Association as well as the SOS Jordanian National Association.

The village is composed of individual houses large enough to accommodate from six to eight children and with a new mother who will be a Jordanian. The village is modeled on the original SOS Children's Village established in 1949 in Imst, Austria by professor Herman Gmeiner. The village is expected to be ready by spring 1986.

— The Children's Museum: RASD is establishing a museum in cooperation with the Haya Arts

Centre where children between four and 12 years of age will be able to handle and control objects in the museum's collection. Exhibits in the museum will teach children about the history and geography of the world in general and of Jordan in particular. It will also focus on teaching children about the human body and health care, the development of mankind throughout the ages, physics, natural sciences and astronomy.

— Institute for Child Health and Welfare: aims to develop methods of diagnosing and monitoring the health, social and psychological conditions of children as well as to conduct field studies to identify the main problems facing children.

The institution will work in cooperation with the Swedish Save the Children Fund-Radda Barnen, and will include three main sections responsible for diagnosing children's conditions from birth until the first five years of their age, training personnel, and producing educational materials, respectively.

— The Educational Toy Libraries: intended for families with



... and the young

children up to seven years of age who need special support and stimulation. The Al Noor Foundation established the first toy library in the Kingdom in cooperation with the Swedish Save the Children Fund-Radda Barnen and hopes that other libraries will be opened throughout the country.

— The National Hospital for Children: an RASD sponsored 180-bed hospital for children to be established on the grounds of the King Hussein Medical City.

The hospital aims to fill the gap in specialised pediatric care existing in Jordan and it will include an emergency department, medical, surgical, ophthalmic, dental and general care clinics, and a general care clinic that will offer vaccination and immunisation facilities. There will also be a department for the assessment of child development, a radiology unit, and a respiratory and physiotherapy unit.

— The Child Development Centre: will provide high quality child care and education at the pre-school level. The centre is being developed to provide comprehensive child care, teacher training programmes, child research and teaching materials.

The centre is being planned in cooperation with the University of Jordan, which will be responsible for its operation.

The family and community programmes initiated by the RASD include three projects which will be implemented and established in the near future.

— Project for the Greening and Developing of Villages: aims to assist rural families to raise the quality and quantity of their output and income and to improve their environmental conditions of their villages.

These families are aided through educational programmes which teach basic health practices, and through projects which help to improve their environment, such as tree planting, road paving and home maintenance.

The Al Noor Foundation cooperates in this project with the GFJW and the Ministry of Social Development.

— Projects for the Integration of Women in Social Development: to increase women's

participation in the national development process in Jordan, focusing on the needs of disadvantaged urban and rural women primarily through income generating projects. Five pilot projects are due to begin in 1986, one in each of the Jordanian governorates. Each will begin with a consciousness-raising programme and then these women will be trained in special skills which will enable them to earn an income in the workplace.

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is providing some initial financial and technical assistance, while the GFJW will be responsible for operating the projects.

— Traditional Crafts Industry: established in cooperation with the American Save the Children Fund to develop the local traditional handicrafts industry. The importance of this project stems from the fact that it is not only a means of preserving traditional handicrafts and improving the quality of goods produced but it will also generate income to families through domestic and export sales.

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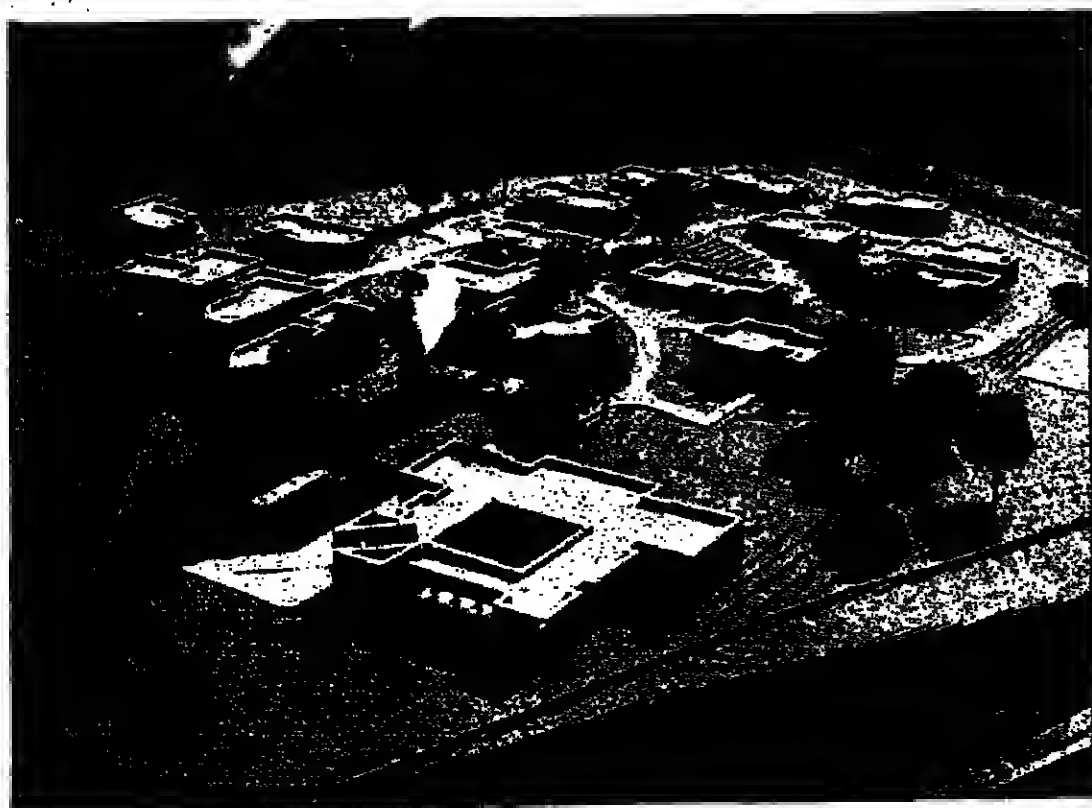
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للشرق الأوسط



The SOS children village.

ARAB BANK LIMITED GROUP

Statement of Condition, 30th June, 1985

	30/6/1985 U.S.\$	30/6/1984 U.S.\$
Assets		
Cash in hand and at banks	7,545,118,688	6,861,835,175
Items in transit	44,193,668	72,576,560
Securities and investments	434,574,342	465,340,627
Investments in associated companies	149,634,619	131,072,048
Bills discounted	182,894,429	195,212,716
Loans	2,287,941,392	2,136,826,643
Bank premises	30,812,212	35,639,004
Furniture & equipment	693,681	24,681,711
Customers' liability on acceptances	5,836,041	46,855,167
Other assets	2,833,177	21,585,316
Total assets	10,900,609,809	10,091,624,967
Customers' liability on guarantees and letters of credit	1,699,028,183	2,122,536,796
Balance sheet total	12,599,637,992	12,214,161,763
Liabilities		
Deposits and other accounts	10,330,763,688	9,567,711,723
Acceptances	46,855,001	46,855,167
Capital	73,712,782	69,864,787
Statutory reserve	5,488,700	49,519,512
General reserve	8,143,842	139,727,874
Voluntary reserve	57,055,008	46,124,197
Reserve with associated cos.	9,123,511	87,245,318
Retained earnings	2,293,017	35,098,307
Other liabilities	43,254,011	47,478,082
Total Liabilities	10,900,609,809	10,091,624,967
Guarantees and letters of credit	1,699,028,183	2,122,536,796
Balance sheet total	12,599,637,992	12,214,161,763

ARAB BANK LIMITED

Institutions	P.O. Box	Telephone	Telex
Sister institution			
• Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd: Zurich	5281	2213035	812279
• Geneva	663	327638	27202
• wholly owned by shareholders of Arab Bank Ltd.			
Subsidiaries			
• Arab Bank Investment Co. Ltd., London		6067491	886318
• wholly owned subsidiary			
• Finance, Accountancy,			
• Mohassaba S.A., Geneva	304	326003	289220
• wholly owned subsidiary			
• Arab Tunisian Bank, Tunis	655	246085	15293
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd.: 62.4%			
Associated Companies			
• Arab Bank Maroc, Casablanca	610	223152	22942
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 50%			
• Oman Arab Bank, Ruwi	5010	706265	3285
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 49%			
• Arab National Bank, Riyadh, S.Arabia	41090	4776434	202860
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 40%			
• Nigeria-Arab Bank Ltd., Lagos	1114	662398	21973
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 40%			
• UBAE Arab German Bank: Luxembourg	115	24481	2874
• Frankfurt		27150	414249
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 37.45%			
• Arabia Insurance Co., Beirut	11-2127	363610	21016
• Interest of Arab Bank Ltd: 36.67%			

General Management and Branches	Country (No. of branches)	P.O. Box	Telephone	Telex
GENERAL MANAGEMENT				
Amman	Jordan	950544	660115	23091
MAIN BRANCHES IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES				
King Faisal Str.—Amman	Jordan (26)	68	638161-9	21273
Shmeisani, Amman		950548	660130	23094
Riad Solh Str.—Beirut	Lebanon (10)	11-1015	250240-9	20704
Tell St. Tripoli		379	820120-4	40715
Salda		199	724501	23661
Manama	Bahrain (3)	395	256988	8232
Doha		172	321570-3	4202
Abu Dhabi	U.A.E. (8)	675	334111	22257
Al Maktoum, Dubai		11364	228845-7	46126
Sana'a	N. Yemen (3)	475	240922	2239
MAIN OFFSHORE BANKING UNITS				
Manama	Bahrain (1)	813	256398	8647
Cairo	Egypt (2)	2006	746216	92716
Singapore	Singapore (1)		5330055	22855-6
1 Bonham Str. 20-00				
Singapore 0104				
MAIN BRANCHES IN EUROPE AND U.S.A.				
The City, London	U.K. (3)	138	6067801-5	887110
Paris	France (1)	332	3593434	642443
Athens	Greece (1)	11074	3255401-10	219922
New York	U.S.A. (1)	5377	7159700	238770
Nicosia	Cyprus (4)	5650	457111	4825
REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE				
Beijing (Peking)	China		502255	22739
Citic Building, 604			(ext. 3640)	
19 Jianguo Menwai Dajie				

Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus, Jafin, Tulkarm, Hebron, and Gaza branches in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are temporarily closed and not allowed to function under the Israeli occupation.

King hopes for continued backing for efforts

Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's speech at a banquet he hosted on Wednesday in honour of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Prime Minister,

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Amman and Jordan. The people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan join me in extending this warm welcome to you, to Mr. Thatcher and the delegation accompanying you. They all share with me the pleasure of presenting my highest admiration to you as well as asserting our friendship and respect to the friendly British people."

"The visit by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to Jordan in March of last year was a shining link in the chain of strong historical ties between our two countries. Not only did it contribute to a strengthening of relations, but it also deepened our faith in the continuing dialogue and understanding which serve our common goals."

"I am confident, Prime Minister, that your own visit will prove to be another distinctive landmark in the history of fruitful co-operation and consultation between our two governments. I am equally confident that it will open up a broader horizon of common action between our two countries and peoples."

"The last six years have enabled me personally to get to know you well through several meetings on matters of common interest. I am happy to say that they have always had useful and positive results leading to a friendship of which I am proud and which occupies a special place among my many friendships with world leaders."

"I should not escape me on this occasion to express my government's appreciation to Her Majesty's government for its understanding and support for development projects in Jordan in the form of loans, technical assistance and information exchange. I look forward to strengthening of co-operation which would serve the common goals and mutual interests of our two countries."

Prime Minister,

"Strong historical ties between the United Kingdom and this important region imply not only a comprehensive knowledge by your country as a European state of the concerns of the region's people and their aspirations, but also a special responsibility towards the region as a whole."

"As you will no doubt notice during your current visit, we in Jordan are fighting two battles at once. The first is concerned with growth and development; the other aims at protecting our achievements, providing our citizenry with security and stability and defending our land and sovereignty and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories. We have accomplished much in the development field. However, achievement has fallen short of aspirations, mainly because of constraints imposed by the need to restore security and stability in the region through arriving at peaceful solutions to the conflicts with which it is beset. Foremost among these is the Arab-Israeli conflict with all its ramifications and side-effects."

"As you well know, Jordan's position on these conflicts has not been one of passive endurance or

disregard of the dangers threatening the region's well-being, now or in the future. Impelled by true sense of responsibility, Jordan has always confronted these problems in a spirit of positive engagement, balance and moderation. It has joined its own sincere efforts with regional and international attempts to seek suitable solutions to the Middle East crisis by peaceful means. In accordance with the United Nations Charter, principles and resolutions."

"You are no doubt fully aware of the efforts we have exerted over the past 18 years to arrive at a just and comprehensive peace of the Middle East crisis, whose core is the Palestinian issue. Our most recent initiative, aimed at investigating the peace process, has been the accord reached by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and concluded on 11 February, 1985. The accord has grown out of a shared belief by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in the efficacy of joint action aimed at reaching a peaceful, just and comprehensive settlement. It is founded on a collective Arab desire for peace as enunciated in the Arab peace plan of the 1982 Fes summit. Under all circumstances this accord is not a substitute for joint Arab action. Indeed, it is part of it constituting one of its links."

"What is new and important here is the initiative's emphasis on two principles of conflict resolution — principles which have hitherto been passed over or deliberately ignored, resulting in unnecessary complication and waste of time. The first principle is that any parties to a dispute ought to be parties to its resolution, thus opening the way for participation in the peace process by the Palestine Liberation Organisation on behalf of the Palestinian people. The second is the need for the parties to any conflict to start off from a point of equilibrium in order to arrive at a balanced solution. As far as the Middle East crisis is concerned, this can only be achieved through implementation of Security Council Resolution 338, which calls for peace negotiations under appropriate international auspices. In 1973, these took the form of an international conference in Geneva. It is our view that this is still the approach required today, namely peace negotiations under the aegis of an international conference in which the five permanent members of the Security Council would participate, along with all the parties to the dispute."

"The encouragement which our peace initiative has received from friendly European countries, especially the United Kingdom, justifies our expectation of continued support for it. In the interest of security and peace, we hope this support would grow into a collective European effort which would help end the hesitation of some countries or change the negative attitude of others."

"The failure to abide by the United Nations Charter and to implement its resolutions constitutes the major reason for the failure of serious peace efforts, aimed at reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem. This also is the primary reason for Israel's in-

transigence and its continued occupation of Arab territories for more than 18 years now. Israel is bent on its expansionist policies which is reflected in its insistence on referring to the West Bank as Judea and Samaria, and its denial of the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, even of acknowledging their existence as a people. Israel continues to build settlements in the occupied territories, expropriates natural resources, foremost amongst them water. It annexed Arab Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, confiscated Arab property and homes, expropriated more than half the land on the occupied West Bank and denies people the right to property and its use under the pretext that they were absent when the occupation took place in 1967. The inhuman treatment of the Arabs under occupation by the Israeli authorities is public knowledge now. All international investigative committees have unanimously confirmed Israel's violation of the Geneva Convention. These are manifested in allowing Israelis and encouraging them to move into the occupied territories; in the terror practiced by these settlers and families against Arabs; in the penalties and collective fines and the burden of heavy taxation; in the demolition of homes, closure of schools and universities; in the imprisonment of children and expulsion of adults. Only a few days ago the Israeli occupation authorities expelled eighteen citizens from the West Bank, adding to the hundreds who were expelled before."

"On the other hand there is the steadfastness of the Arab Palestinian people, their refusal to accept occupation and their clinging to their national identity and national soil."

"Can we hope for a rejuvenated and determined international will to deter Israel and check its aggressive policies, and dislodge her from her present position, and point her in the direction of reason, humanity and peace? Or shall we let the situation deteriorate leading to a rise in extremism, to greater anguish and suffering, to a draining of resources and to an increase in tension and dangers?"

Prime Minister,

"Preoccupied as it is with arriving at a just and comprehensive peace on its western border, Jordan is anxious to see the war, now raging beyond its eastern border, come to an end."

"The violent war in the Gulf, now in its sixth year, continues to claim lives, drain resources and threaten the entire Gulf region, because of Iran's intransigence and its rejection of all international peace initiatives."

"While believing in the necessity to settle the Iraq-Iran dispute by peaceful means and encouraging all initiatives towards this end, Jordan stands by Iraq in its just defence of its land and people. Jordan calls on the Iranian regime to respond to the voice of reason and the call for peace."

Prime Minister,

"Once again I extend to you and to Mr. Thatcher and the accompanying delegation our warmest welcome among the people of Jordan. I hope you will have a pleasant stay, and I wish the friendly British people continued success and prosperity. "Peace be upon you, and God's mercy and His blessings."



His Majesty King Hussein receives British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Wednesday, British Ambassador Arthur John Coles in the centre (Photo by Youssef Al-Ahmad)

Jordan greets Thatcher with grand ceremony

(Continued from page 1)

of honour, which comprised members of army, air force and naval units of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Following the guard of honour, Mr. Rifai and Mrs. Thatcher, the first British prime minister to visit Jordan and the first to visit Egypt after Sir Winston Churchill were greeted by cabinet ministers and a number of senior civilian and military officials.

More than 20 British journalists are accompanying Mrs. Thatcher along with an official delegation which includes Mr. Stephen Egeon, the under-secretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the premier's secretary, Charles Power and Tim Flesher, and the prime minister's chief press secretary, Benjamin Jagham, and his assistant I. Murray.

Amid tight security measures, the British guests were driven in a motorcade to Al Nadwa Palace, where Mrs. Thatcher received by His Majesty King Hussein. The King and Mrs. Thatcher held a brief session of talks at the palace and reviewed bilateral relations.

According to Jordanian spokesmen, Mrs. Thatcher's official programme will start on Thursday with a visit to the Martyr's Monument, after which she will hold talks with Mr. Rifai at the Prime Ministry.

King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will receive Mrs. Thatcher later in the day.

Prince Hassan will host a lunch in honour of Mrs. Thatcher, after which the British prime minister will tour the Baqaa refugee camp in the outskirts of Amman. More than 36,000 Palestinian refugees live in the camp.

The British prime minister will also have time to meet with members of the British community living in Jordan during a reception which will be held at the British ambassador's residence in Amman on Thursday.

On Thursday evening, Mrs. Thatcher will host a banquet in honour of King Hussein.

According to Jordanian spokesmen, the British prime minister's "most active day" in Jordan will be Friday, when she will tour a number of military positions in Al Hissa and Jarranah areas, south of Amman. She will also visit an electricity plant in Al Hailah.

Mrs. Thatcher is expected to hold a press conference for foreign and Jordanian reporters in Amman on Friday. She will also pay a visit to the ancient Nabataean city of Petra before her departure from Amman on Friday evening.

Amman's streets, were decked with banners welcoming the British guests and wishing them a happy stay in the Kingdom. The national flags of Britain and Jordan also fluttered from almost every lamppost in the capital.

Iraq retakes 3 heights

(Continued from page 1)

midway in the Gulf about 140 kilometres north of Bahrain.

An Exocet missile went in through the port side of the Smit-Mabus 1 and out through the starboard side without detonating.

Meanwhile in Tehran, a senior Iranian official said Iran considered Kuwait had declared war on it by virtue of its direct and indirect assistance to Iraq in the Gulf war.

"We cannot have friendly relations with someone who helps our enemy," war information headquarters chief Kamal Kharrazi told a press conference. "This is in effect a declaration of war and participation in the war."

He said this meant Iran considered itself free to stop Kuwait-bound ships near Iran's Gulf coast. It has stopped five so far this month to check for and confiscate "strategic" goods bound for Iraq.

"We have always asked small countries like Kuwait to stay away from this fire," Kharrazi said, adding Iran did not have "any special programme against Kuwait in mind."

His statement was the strongest official attack on Kuwait since a recent series of editorials in the Tehran press sharply criticised it for supporting Iraq and allegedly expelling Iranians.

Thatcher: Time running out for Jordanian initiative

Following is the full text of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's speech at a banquet hosted by His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday.

"Your Majesty, Your Royal Highnesses, Mr. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"It is a great happiness and fulfilment to me to be in Amman at last as your guest."

"One of the privileges of a British prime minister — indeed one of the greatest of them — is the opportunity to work closely with Your Majesty."

"I have very much valued our collaboration and I hope I am not presumptuous in saying, friendship over more than six years now. Over that period I have learned a great deal, not only about the problems of the Middle East, but about the human qualities, above all of courage and clear-sightedness, which have earned Your Majesty respect and admiration world-wide."

"Not just as a defender of Jordan's independence, although that you have done with outstanding success, making your country an oasis of calm amidst many troubles."

"Not just as a spokesman for the highest values of Arab civilisation, though that too has been Your Majesty's role."

"But as a lesson to the world of the indomitable spirit of the Arab people and their wish to live in peace, in freedom and with justice."

"In your own speech to the Palestine National Council last year you said: 'The justification of the existence of a ruler or leader rests on the fulfilment of his responsibilities with wisdom and courage, with vigour and sincerity.'"

"You, Sir, stand as witness to the truth of that."

"It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure to be in Amman, as the first British prime minister in office to visit Jordan, and I thank Your Majesty and the people of Jordan for the warm reception which you have given us."

"Your Majesty, the links between Britain and Jordan are very special."

"This year marks the 40th an-

iversary of the end of the Second World War."

"I am reminded of the unity of purpose which the peoples of Britain and Jordan shared in those bleak times, and of the lead which your late grandfather, King Abdulullah of respected memory — and I pay tribute to him — took in confronting a common threat. We want to strengthen those links in the years ahead. Visits are very important in this."

"We always look forward eagerly to Your Majesty's arrival in London — and were particularly honoured this year that you were present to take the salute at the Royal Tournament in which your Armed Forces performed with such distinction."

"Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip paid an extremely happy and successful state visit to Jordan as your guests last year, and their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales have told me how touched they were by the warmth of your hospitality this spring."

"During my own time here, alas too short, I look forward to seeing some of the British companies whose presence here is an earnest of our wish to play a part in Jordan's economic development, to the benefit of both of us."

"I believe that there is scope to extend that collaboration still further."

"I also look forward to particular visits of your Armed Forces whose international reputation stands so high, and with whom Britain enjoys close links."

"But it is inevitable that much of our time should be devoted to discussion of wider Middle East problems and in particular to the further initiative which Your Majesty took last February."

"You told me then, I recall, that 1985 represents a special opportunity for peace, which must be grasped."

"I share that belief."

"But we are now little more than three months from the end of

the year. "We in Britain are ready — and I hope others will be ready — to use that very short period to create the right circumstances for peaceful negotiations."

"We need a climate of greater confidence so that all parties will be prepared to take some risks for peace."

"Peace will not come through violence and terrorism."

"Peace cannot come if large numbers of people in the occupied territories are denied the possibility of living under a system and government in which they can have confidence."

"It will not come either if any of the parties feel so threatened by actions and statements of others that it has to give priority to defence over the step into the unknown which peace will represent."

"You, Your Majesty, have worked to change attitudes. You have had striking success."

"Your Majesty, neither you nor we are interested in palliatives for the Arab-Israeli conflict. We are committed to seeing a lasting and comprehensive solution achieved through peaceful negotiation."

"A settlement which will be lasting because it is fair, and just because it deals with all the outstanding issues."

"A settlement which takes into account the legitimate rights of all the peoples and states in the area, including of course the Palestinians."

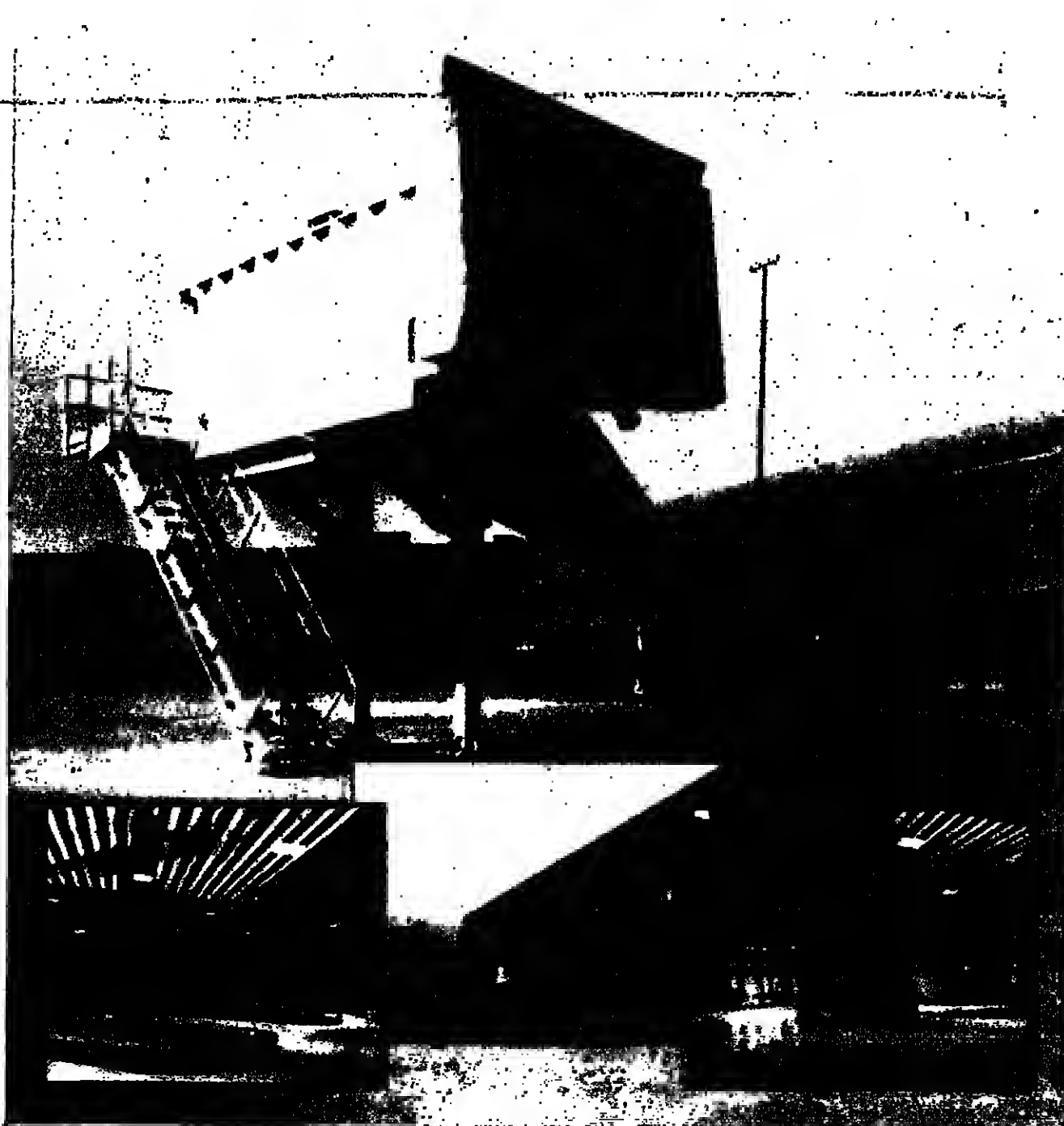
"A settlement which commands overwhelming acceptance because it is freely and directly negotiated by trusted representatives of all those involved."

"That is a goal which has eluded us for too long."

"But no one has shown greater determination not to work harder than you, Sir, to see it realised."

"Your efforts, Jordan's efforts, have our support and encouragement."

"It is to the success of these efforts as well as to Your Majesty's health, and to the happiness and prosperity of the people of Jordan that I should like to propose a toast."



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U.S. 'determined to go ahead' with arms sales

(Continued from page 1)

The House, dominated by Democrats, is expected to oppose the sale. However, in the Senate "the president will be taking a gamble," the State Department official said.

The Senate has a Republican majority. If the Senate also opposed the sale, President Reagan could veto the resolution to force the Senate to come up with a 67 per cent opposition to block the sale instead of the usual 51 per cent majority.

The president can also have the issue of national security and go ahead with the sale though that could cause him considerable embarrassment. It is not known whether the president is ready to go that far.

"It all depends on whether the president is ready to expend so much political capital at this stage," the State Department official told the Jordan Times.

Senator Richard Lugar, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, who is opposed to the arms sale request being submitted now, warned President Reagan recently "not to shoot himself in the foot."

A White House official, however, said the administration was anxious to go ahead with submitting the request to Congress "because of previous com-

mitments to Jordan."

The United States "has security commitments to close friends, and it must live up to them," the White House official said, adding that "security is inextricably linked to forward movement in the peace process."

The State Department had said the administration will make two requests to Congress regarding the arms sale. One to approve the financing of the deal, and another to approve the specific arms requested.

One source estimated the total cost of the arms package to Jordan to probably exceed one billion, with the administration seeking congressional approval for credits to finance roughly \$750 million and the remainder to be covered by Saudi Arabia.

The request is expected to spark a debate like the one in 1980 and 1981 over the sale of Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) to Saudi Arabia.

Anthony Cordesman, a Washington-based military analyst expects the Congress to reject the arms sale because the debate "will be based on a lot of misunderstanding of the Middle East."

"Americans by and large do not know enough about the Middle East to distinguish between Arab states because the press jumps

them together," he said in an interview recently. "There is no perception that Jordan is a moderate country seeking peace."

Mr. Cordesman who is vice president of Analytical Assessments Centre and author of a book on Jordan and the military balance in the Middle East criticised the U.S. policy in the region.

"The U.S. has not shown much leadership or courage in its handling of the Middle East," he said. "It should be more aggressive and respond adequately to the need to talk to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

He said the U.S. should encourage Jordan to move ahead in the peace process by helping the Kingdom maintain its security. "The peace process might largely depend on how the U.S. responds to Jordan's arms request."

Last month the administration forwarded a study on the Middle East arms transfer which is reported to include a "threat analysis" of the "danger" posed to Israel by potential arms sales to Arab States.

A Pentagon official told the Jordan Times this week that Israel has been insisting that the U.S. government "take into consideration Egypt's military strength when studying threats to Israel's security."

Life after 2000: How we'll farm

By Barbara S. Moffet
National Geographic News Service

WASHINGTON — The 21st-century cow may be free of disease, gain weight without synthetic hormones, and wear a computer chip under its skin so that the farmer can track its vital signs.

The 21st-century corn plant should be able to resist insects, frost, and drought, and brim with nutrition, unsullied by commercial fertilizers. It, too, may hear a microchip, linked to a computerized irrigation system.

The 21st-century farmer may step out the door and aim an infrared gun at his crop to determine if it is dry, or at his animals to see if they are feverish. He may use seawater for irrigation and only the sun for power.

Farmer as technician

He'll spend less time on a tractor and more time at his computer, programming minute details about his crops, plugging in data gathered by orbiting satellites, and keeping up on the latest in genetic manipulation. Farming, 21st-century style, will be a highly sophisticated business.

"American agriculture will essentially be an industrial process," says Dr. Ronald D. Knutson, an agricultural economist at Texas

A&M University. "At least half our food will be produced by 1 percent of the farms. The only small farms that survive will be part-time operations."

In laboratories and greenhouses across the country, discoveries and inventions are blossoming that will shape and perhaps revolutionize agriculture of the future. While designed to save money and labor for the farmer, the innovations also have a larger purpose.

The world's population is expected to reach 8 billion by early next century, nearly twice that of 1984. Foreign markets for American farm products are expected to grow. A report by a Washington research organization, Resources for the Future, predicts a 70 to 100 percent increase in global demand for U.S. food and fiber by 2020. Helping to feed the world will be all the more difficult if arable land, fertile topsoil, and fresh water continue to disappear and the number of American farmers keeps dropping.

Custom-designed crops

Perhaps no new technology has greater applications for agriculture than has biotechnology, which includes several forms of genetic engineering. By isolating specific desirable genes in one

organism and transferring them to another, scientists are custom-designing new farm products. Unlike conventional crossbreeding, which is restricted to related strains and can take several generations to create the desired progeny, the new genetic engineering can combine any two organisms and achieve results in only one generation.

"I would think that by early in the next century, most of our major crops would have been replaced by other that are more nutritious, easier to digest, cheaper to grow, higher in yield, and less susceptible to pests," says Daniel D. Adams, chairman and chief executive officer of Advanced Genetic Sciences in Greenwich, Conn.

The value of new genetic improvements to U.S. crops is predicted to soar to \$10 billion a year after 2000, according to a detailed study by L. William Teweles & Co. of Milwaukee.

The study says that key cereal crops — corn, wheat, rice, and sorghum — as well as many vegetables will be transformed before 2000 and that the new plants' seeds will be in wide use by farmers in the first quarter of the 21st century.

Advanced Genetic Sciences is well on its way to creating frost protection for plants. After determining that certain bacteria promote formation of ice crystals,

scientists isolated the bacterial ice-producing gene and removed it.

When applied to crops, the new, altered bacteria crowd out the original variety, lowering the plants' freezing point. Used on a large scale, the new bacteria could lengthen growing seasons and push the nation's crop belt hundreds of miles north.

Other companies, such as Agracetus of Middletown, Wis., are designing disease- and pest-resistant plants. "They definitely should reduce the use of chemical pesticides," says Dr. Winston Brill of Agracetus. Some specialists predict, however, that the use of herbicides — weed killers — could go up as herbicide-resistant crops are developed.

Automatic fertilizers

Brill and other U.S. scientists also are trying to cut the farmer's dependence on expensive nitrogen fertilizers. Leguminous plants such as soybeans don't need fertilizer; bacteria on their roots process nitrogen from the air. Brill's research is aimed at splicing these "nitrogen-fixing" genes into those of other crops or at transferring nitrogen-fixing bacteria to the crops to make them self-fertilizing.

Genetic engineers have their microscopes trained on farm animals as well as plants. Biological vaccines, some of them made from recombinant DNA rather than a whole virus, already are in use and are proving more effective than conventional vaccines, says Dr. Franklin Pass, president of Molecular Genetics Inc. of Minneapolis.

The company also is engineering biological hormones, but they may be only stepping stones to new, improved farm animals that grow more quickly without heavy use of antibiotics. "I don't think we're going to see cows that look like elephants," Pass says. "The goal is economic relief for the farmer. Animals growing faster means less feed consumption."

Most U.S. beef cattle and other animals are bred conventionally today, but artificial insemination will be used more in the future. Experimental techniques that track nature will be applied widely in the next century, predicts Dr. George Seidel, professor of physiology at Colorado State University.

Animal embryos can be manipulated in a variety of ways to improve and multiply offspring. The embryonic cells of a cow with favorable genetic traits, for example, could be removed at an early stage and split in half; one half could be returned to the mother for development, the other half frozen. If the offspring met expectations, the frozen half could be thawed, weeks or even years later, and allowed to develop.

The superior animal's embryo theoretically could be divided into many parts, each one planted in a surrogate mother for development into identical offspring. Or desirable genes could be injected directly into a fertilized egg of a pregnant animal. "These techniques might mean lots of offspring per cow each year instead of only one, and creation of a different animal for every environment," Seidel explains.

Fewer cows, farmers.

Genetic engineering is raising environmental, ethical, and economic concerns for the future. "A genetically produced growth hormone for cattle could greatly increase milk production, and the response could be a one-third reduction in the nation's dairy herd," says Jack Doyle, director of the agricultural resources project of the Environmental Policy Institute. "Fewer dairy cows mean fewer dairy farmers."

Doyle foresees other hazards as genetic engineering becomes more sophisticated, spawning plant-growth regulators, synthetic seeds, microbial pesticides and viruses, and genetically enhanced bacteria. "Who will decide whether these products are safe, economical, and efficient in fostering agricultural production?" he asks. "Almost everything a farmer uses will be electronically monitored on most future farms. Traditional record-keeping systems are on the way out," says Norman Brown, who raises hogs near Alledo, Ill., and also sells computer software.

But computer accounting is only the first step toward an all-electronic farm, which will give new meaning to the phrase "cow chip." A few dairy cattle already wear transponders around their necks — microchips that beam radio waves to a computer.

As a cow enters a feed stall, the animal's identification number on her transponder is read by a sensor and relayed to the farmer's computer. "The computer would already know that cow number 301 is in her eighth week of lactation and producing 60 pounds of milk a day," says Scott Sklare of Valmoot Industries in Valley, Neb. "Based on output, the computer would calculate the quantity and



Gathering around the computer terminal is part of the workday for this Nebraska farm family. More sophisticated computers will help keep the next century's farmer-businessmen informed about all their needs from fields that require irrigation to livestock that are ready for

breeding. A farmer with a satellite hookup will be able to determine the condition of his entire crop from his computer, without ever leaving his house.

nutrient mix of feed the cow needs and would trigger the bin to dispense the proper amount."

Microchips planted on strategically selected crop plants will advise the farmer, through his computer, about such conditions as soil moisture or fungi, predicts Dr. Terry Kinney, administrator of the U.S. Agriculture Department's Agricultural Research Service. In response, the computer will trip the irrigation system or issue recommendations for controlling the disease.

Robots and satellites

Next century's farm hands will include robots that could edge out migrant workers, says Wayne Rasmussen, an Agriculture Department historian. "We'll see a continuing disappearance of back-breaking labor on farms," he says.

And farmers undoubtedly will

seek more guidance from satellites. Microwave-heating satellites, for example, will peer through clouds and the crop canopy to evaluate soil moisture. "It would not be far out to think of a farmer dialing a phone number, as soil moisture or fungi, predicts Dr. Terry Kinney, administrator of the U.S. Agriculture Department's Agricultural Research Service. In response, the computer will trip the irrigation system or issue recommendations for controlling the disease."

Agriculture accounts for 80 to 85 percent of the total water consumed in the United States. Worries about dwindling water supplies are spawning alternatives to traditional agriculture. "If you look at the planet, two-thirds is covered with water, but only half of 1 percent is fresh water," says Carl Hodges, director of the Environmental Research Lab at the University of Arizona. "If we could supplement fresh-water agri-

culture with a new kind, we would make a significant contribution to world food supplies."

Hodges and his co-workers have scoured the world's estuaries and bays for halophytes, plants that thrive in seawater. Out of more than 1,000 halophytes gathered, 12 show promise as major crops, some of them protein-rich. Hodges says. They are growing well on test farms and are expected to be produced commercially in five years.

Farm-grown fish

Water holds further promise as a source for 21st-century menus. Offshore pollution and overfishing will force large-scale reliance on fish grown on farms, predicts Kevin Fitzsimmons of the University of Arizona.


Today's farm bounty is based on heavy use of fossil fuels to provide power and to produce fertilizers

and pesticides. "Agriculture as we know it would collapse if we lost our supply of fossil fuels," says historian Rasmussen. He predicts that within 20 to 50 years, solar energy will open the next major phase in American agriculture.

Nothing would shake up agriculture more than a widespread climatic change. Some scientists expect the buildup of carbon dioxide and other gases to raise the average global temperature a few degrees by 2040. One study concludes that the Great Plains would suffer severe declines in rainfall, becoming a permanent dust bowl.

In response, we might consider moving agriculture indoors — and redesigning food, Dr. Cyril Ponnamperuma of the University of Maryland thinks. Coal, broken down into its chemical components, could become part of our diet. He foresees a time when factories, not farms, will produce much of our food.

FARMING AFTER 2000



INPUT

- Genetic engineering
- Embryo manipulation
- Satellite data
- Computer aid
- Unconventional crops
- New energy sources

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OUTPUT

CROPS

- High yielding
- Pest resistant
- Stress tolerant
- Easier to digest

LIVESTOCK

- Faster growing
- Healthier
- More productive
- Environmental and ethical questions

Good Morning, Farmer Brown

Cow #301 ready for breeding

Irrigation begun in field #3


Fungus detected on corn crop



With the snap of a collar, a dairy cow is ready for monitoring on a computerized farm. An electric eye in the feed bin "reads" the transistorized sensor on

the collar and dispenses the exact amount of feed the cow needs to produce his milk quota. Future sensors will be implanted under animal's skin.

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FROM
CITIZEN

Bellydancing: An exercise for body and spirit

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Perhaps not as popular in Jordan as in most other Arab countries, bellydancing is now being discovered and more and more appreciated by American and European women who come to the Middle East or crowd the few specialised schools in the West to learn its steps.

In Jordan, those who know this art are somewhat bashful of publicising it and usually only practise it privately. Most traditional dancing groups just smile at the mention of the name. In Egypt, where the dance is widespread among young and old women, it is non-etheless hard to find information since most women can perform the correct steps but know little about the origins or the benefits of the dance.

Mrs. Pamela Dorsch, American dancer and instructor who spent many years in Jordan, told us that she learned bellydancing through a friend and occasionally performed it for small audiences at her embassy's parties here. She appreciates the dance's value in

building strength, flexibility and coordination, especially in the pelvis and hips.

Few are aware, however, that bellydancing involves more than just the pelvis area. The whole body is exercised, including muscles we are hardly ever called upon to use. Parts of the body are used in isolation as in Jazzdance and yoga.

Bellydancing requires training to strengthen the muscles, so the body will move the way we want it to. This training firms up the body, trims the figure, straightens the posture and gives a good overall exercise. It enables to transform the simplest movement into a controlled dance step while having fun. As most dancing, it demands complete attention, challenging your skills, coordination, rhythm and the ability to imitate and pick up patterns.

One learns to lift the arms from the backbone instead of the shoulder, to open the rib cage and breathe from the stomach instead of the chest, to slide the rib cage side to side while keeping the body motionless. While it may seem difficult at first, it is easily mastered by women of all ages, from childhood to later years.

The reason is probably because bellydancing's moves are entirely natural to women's bodies. In its earliest forms, the dance was intended as a fertility dance performed by women to prepare and help each other through the rigours of childbirth, and it is still today appreciated for these purposes. But its origins seem to be even more obscure and go into prehistory. Pictures have been found of women in ancient Egypt performing dances similar to bellydancing.

Bellydancing is valuable in preparation for and recovery from childbirth because it loosens the pelvis area as well as stiff or tense muscles without putting excessive strain on the body. Others claim bellydancing can even bring relief to arthritis. Will it also help one to lose weight? It depends on how much and how intensely one dances. Dancers, however, always look great because they know how to use their bodies harmoniously. Bellydancers are especially sensuous, with fluid arms and an earthy presence that comes from sensing their bodies.

Professional bellydancers' soft-



The celebrated Faridah Fahmi of Egypt, who leads a folklore dancing group, performs a belly dance in the style of southern Egyptians.

mobile abdomens have too often been mistaken for fat. On the contrary, bellydancing requires control of the underlying deep muscles of pelvis and spine, giving them tone without bulk.

Most of this information was given to me by an energetic and talented folk group from Egypt who has recently performed at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Amman. The leader of the group, Mr. Hosny Azah, who has worked as a folk dancer for 13 years, told the Jordan Times that the main requirement for someone who wants to learn bellydancing is an inborn sense of rhythm. A limber body will come as a result of the exercise, but what a bellydancer needs to do is feel the music and learn to listen for the beats and changing tempos. One of the secrets is learning to listen to the music and analyse the moods displayed by changes in rhythms, tones and tempos. "No one can teach you how to personally interpret the music and develop your own style, but you can learn to

analyse the music," he said. Hosny Azah's group is the largest in Cairo, he said, but in Amman he performed only with five other dancers, for a total of three men and three girls. The girls, willowy and harmonious, are a living proof of bellydancing's benefits. And if you perform every night, as they do, whether publicly or privately, that might be all the exercise you need. Nora Said, one of the three female dancers of the group, said that she spends most of her non-performing time sleeping.

Britain declares war on pirate radios

By Mark S. Smith
Associated Press

LONDON — The British government has sailed into battle against Europe's best-known pirate radio stations and put a broadcast into other illegal broadcasters it calls "pullers of the airwaves."

The Department of Trade's crackdown has resulted in scores of raids on land-based pirates and at least 65 prosecutions. But so far, the offshore buccaneers, Radio Caroline and American-owned Laser 558, transmitting from ships moored outside British territorial waters, have eluded its grasp.

Not for long, department officials warn, as they try to cut the ships' supply lines.

On Aug. 8, a government surveillance vessel, the 99-foot (30-m) electronic Surveyor, appeared off the bows of the two pirates at their anchorage off England's east coast.

Since then, the Surveyor, bristling with electronic gear and powerful searchlights, has booked a dozen ships allegedly violating British laws against aiding pirate broadcasts.

Laser 558 responded with repeated broadcasts of the ditty "who's afraid of the big bad wolf."

"We are determined to see these stations off the air," declared a trade department official, who said department policy forbade use of his name. "We're not just like them to shut down, quietly and quickly."

The two offshore stations are the tip of what at its height was an illegal iceberg in Britain.

With names like Radio Jackie, Dread Broadcasting, London Greek Radio and KEM, the pirates broadcast from rural rooftops or the dingy basements of Britain's urban slums, constantly shifting their transmitters to avoid detection.

Sometimes they merely provided an alternative music mix to the publicly funded British Broadcasting Corp (BBC) and the commercial independent stations, which are state-supervised.

Other pirates were the underground voice of an ethnic community.

In West London, reggae stations announced records in a mix of Jamaican patois and cockney.

dropped consonants. Others broadcast in Arabic and Hindi.

But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government insists that pirate radio is a public menace.

Last year, the government began a major crackdown, strengthened by new legislation allowing police to seize broadcast equipment as evidence. Before, many broadcasters were back on the air hours after a bust.

To date, 155 raids have been carried out, according to trade department figures. The Times of London estimated that before the crackdown, up to 140 pirates were operating in Britain. Now there are but a handful, it said.

However, goaded by the pirates, the government also announced an experimental plan to license 21 new community stations and increase broadcasting diversity. But the stations will be under direct state control.

Pirate broadcasting has a long history in Britain, dating to the swinging sixties.

Caroline was the first pirate, taking to the air Easter Sunday 1964 backed by a handful of jet setters and record promoters outraged that the BBC wouldn't give airtime to rock 'n' roll groups like the Rolling Stones and the Animals.

Within seven weeks, a survey showed that nearly half the BBC's audience was listening to Caroline or its sister station Caroline North. Three years later, the BBC formally acknowledged the age of rock by creating its own rock network, radio 1. Today, it employs a string of disc jockeys who once rode the sea on Caroline.

Meanwhile, independent commercial radio has become a thriving business, serving 42 local markets across Britain, mostly with a combination of pop and middle-of-the-road music. It is supervised by the government-appointed Independent Broadcasting Authority and licenses to other stations are not readily granted.

But pirate broadcasters insist that in most areas, the choice offered by the legal services is still limited.

In London, they note, just seven legal radio stations serve 6.7 million people. By comparison, New York, with a population of just over 7 million, has more than 70 to choose from.

King: Peace initiative deserves support

(Continued from page 1)

tinued support for it." King Hussein told Mrs. Thatcher, the first-ever British prime minister to visit Jordan. "In the interest of security and peace, we hope this support would grow into a collective European effort which would help end the hesitation of some countries or change the negative attitude of others," he said.

The King briefly reviewed the deteriorating conditions in the Israeli-occupied territories, Israel's expansionist policies, the continuing Israeli drive to build settlements in the occupied lands and seize Arab lands, the inhuman treatment of the Arabs under occupation and Israel's violation of the Geneva Convention and attacks against Arabs by Jewish settlers and the occupation authorities' oppressive measures against the people under occupation, and said the current situation in the occupied territories and the failure of efforts to solve the Palestinian problem were the direct result of non-adherence to the United Nations Charter and U.N. resolutions.

"Can we hope for a rejuvenated and determined international will to deter Israel and check its aggressive practices, and dislodge her extremism, arrogance and the appetite for expansion, and point her in the direction of reason, humanity and peace?" the King asked. "Or shall we let the situation deteriorate, leading to a

rise in extremism, to greater anguish and suffering, to a draining of resources and to an increase in tension and dangers?"

Turning to another vital Middle East issue, the King said Jordan was anxious to see the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war come to an end. The continuing war is draining the resources of the region, and threatens the entire Gulf region because of Iran's refusal to discuss peace, he said. The King reiterated Jordan's firm support for Iraq and called on Iraq to respond to the "voice of reason and the call for peace."

Full text of the King's speech, appears on page 7)

In reply to the King's speech, Mrs. Thatcher said time was running out for the Jordanian-Palestinian peace initiative and said Britain was ready to exert efforts to speed the peace process.

Mrs. Thatcher praised the King's "wisdom and courage... vigour and sincerity", and said he was a "lesson to the world of the indomitable spirit of the Arab people and their wish to live in peace, freedom and justice."

Recalling British-Jordanian relations which date back to World War II and "the unity of purpose which the peoples of Jordan and Britain shared in those bleak times," the prime minister said: "We want to strengthen those links in the years ahead."

Referring to the Middle East peace process activated by the Feb. 11 agreement, Mrs. Thatcher

recalled that King Hussein told her earlier this year that 1985 represents a "special opportunity for peace, which must be grasped," and said "I share that belief."

"But we are now little more than three months from the end of the year," she said. "We in Britain are ready — and I hope others will be ready — to use that very short period to create the right circumstances for peaceful negotiations."

The British prime minister called for a Middle East peace settlement which "will be lasting because it is fair, and just because it deals with all outstanding issues."

Such a settlement should take into account "the legitimate rights of all the peoples and states in the area, including of course the Palestinians," and should command "overwhelming acceptance because it is freely and directly negotiated by trusted representatives of all those involved," the prime minister said. (See full text of Mrs. Thatcher's speech on page 7).

Mrs. Thatcher arrived in Jordan after a two-day visit to Egypt.

She said before leaving Cairo that it was increasingly urgent to embark on the first stage of the Middle East process — talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the United States, the region's main peace broker.

"There are only a few months to get the first stage off the ground," Mrs. Thatcher told British reporters. She said it would be a serious setback for peace in the Middle East if the Jordanian initiative were to fail.

She summarised the present delay by saying the United States and Israel refused to meet PLO until it formally accepted Israel's right to exist, while the PLO refused to do that until Washington had agreed to talks.

"You cannot go on like this without trying to break the deadlock," Mrs. Thatcher said. The United States has so far declined to meet a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, apparently out of concern that it includes PLO members.

Mrs. Thatcher said she felt the European Community should be involved in the framework of the peace process. "If you get Europe, the United States and the moderate Arab states, I don't know whether this is enough. "If you get the Soviet Union (in the process) just might be so long you wouldn't get very far," she said.

Mrs. Thatcher on Tuesday signalled a softening in her approach to PLO participation in the peace process.

She said there were a number of PLO members who had rejected "terrorism", hinting they might be suitable for inclusion in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian team.

She said she would meet such a team after they had met U.S. special Middle East envoy Richard Murphy.

Jordanian publisher shot dead

(Continued from page 1)

body lying in a pool of blood in the lobby, with bullet wounds in the head and chest.

Annashra, a small circulation magazine published in Greece for two years, wrote last month that 21 Syrian air force lieutenants were sentenced to death in July after a plot to overthrow Syrian President Hafez Al Assad was uncovered.

The magazine also quoted a Palestinian source as saying that Syrian intelligence had recently arrested more than 300 Palestinians, including Arafat supporters.

Mr. Nimri's body was wrapped in a white sheet and taken away in a makeshift coffin as press photographers scuffled with police trying to clear the way to a waiting hearse.

Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas is currently on an official visit to Athens.

Friends of Mr. Nimri said he spoke no Greek, lived alone near the magazine's offices and often travelled abroad.

His death came three weeks after a shadowy group known as the "Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims" claimed responsibility for a grenade attack on a Greek seaside hotel which injured 18 British tourists.

Earlier this month Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias called in Arab ambassadors and told them such actions could damage Greek-Arab relations.

The same group, which says it is fighting "against the British imperialist presence" also said it was behind an attack on another hotel near Athens on Aug. 8, which injured 13 people, six of them British.

In Damascus, the Arab Journalists Federation strongly condemned the murder of Mr. Nimri and called on the Greek government to bring the killer and those behind him to justice, federation officials said.

Mubarak dismisses rumours of attempt on life

(Continued from page 1)

Noting that Libya's official Tripoli radio had broadcast the rumour, Mr. Mubarak said: "We also can play this game and can do many other things, but we have become a mature nation."

Libya and Egypt have been feuding since 1972 over policy differences and fought a brief border war in July 1977. The latest crisis came over Libya's decision to expel many foreign workers, including about 100,000 Egyptians.

According to official figures, about 15,000 Egyptian workers have been deported so far. Cairo said they had been forced to leave without compensation, social insurance benefits and some of their personal belongings.

Noting Egypt's economic problems, Mr. Mubarak said he decreed this month's cabinet shakeup because he wanted a career economist as prime minister.

Aly Laifi, a professor of eco-

nomy and former finance minister, replaced as Premier Kamal Hassan Ali, a former defence and foreign minister.

President Mubarak begins a four-nation tour Thursday that includes the United States, where he will press for speedier movement toward American-sponsored Middle East peace talks.

The president gave a hint of his intentions in a speech Tuesday night in honour of visiting British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"The time has come to enhance the move toward peace," Mr. Mubarak said. "If we do not move in this direction at maximum speed and without delay, powers of extremism and violence will prevail."

Mr. Mubarak and top aide, Osama Al Baz, in remarks to reporters in the last few days, obliquely criticised the U.S. stance in the quest for a preliminary dia-

logue between Washington and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The Egyptian president begins his tour with a brief stopover in Portugal before flying to Spain for a state visit as the guest of King Juan Carlos.

Washington follows, the trip's centrepiece.

King Hussein is also to visit Washington and has a Sept. 30 meeting scheduled with the U.S. president. He flew to Cairo on Saturday to coordinate with Mr. Mubarak their positions in the White House.

As the Arab leaders conferred, Dr. Baz was critical when asked whether the United States was doing enough.

Noting that "not much has been achieved" by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, Dr. Baz said: "Let us say there is room for more movement. It would be a pity if this opportunity is lost. Time is of the essence."

Ex-leaders seek strategy London calls quits with Moscow

(Continued from page 1)

north of Beirut, three Maronite-Christian ex-presidents — Camille Chamoun, Suleiman Franjeh and Charles Helou — met in an effort to unify Christian ranks.

Beirut Radio said Mr. Chamoun, founder of the National Liberal Party, told reporters after emerging early from the talks that they were "very necessary" and would achieve results in the interests of the nation.

The powerful, mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia described the talks in a statement on Tuesday night superfluous and said they might hold up efforts to end "this stifling crisis."

At a first meeting on Aug. 28 the three former presidents rejected Muslim demands for the abolition of confessionalism, insisting that the presidency remain in Maronite hands.

But they failed to agree on a stance towards President Amin Gemayel, whose resignation has been demanded by Mr. Franjeh. The leader of the Shi'ite Muslim

Amal militia, Nabih Berri, said at the weekend that while pursuing efforts to negotiate an end to the civil war, he did not rule out a military solution.

In South Lebanon, a young suicide bomber rammed an explosive-laden car into an Israeli-backed militia position in Israel's so-called "security belt" Tuesday, a leftist organisation said.

The group, the Libyan-backed Arab Socialist Union — Nasserite Organisation, claimed the blast killed or wounded 30 militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Beirut newspapers said hundreds of families had left their homes in Tripoli's northern sector, a traditional area of confrontation between the ADP and Tawheed. They also reported food shortages and power failures because of damaged cables.

Hospitals issued new appeals for blood donors Wednesday, saying they were facing a drastic shortage of plasma.

London calls quits with Moscow.

(Continued from page 1)

between the two countries in their lowest point in years, and this is the first time tit-for-tat expulsions have stretched into a fourth round.

Sixty-two diplomats, journalists and businessmen have been ordered out of London and Moscow in the past six days.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said in a statement: "The Soviet authorities must bear the full responsibility for this lamentable episode."

Western diplomats said Moscow had again thrown the ball back into Britain's court.

In the long term, Britain had most to lose in the expulsions war as there are 205 Soviet nationals based in London, compared with just over 100 Britons in posts in the Soviet Union.



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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.3320/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3785/90	Canadian dollars
	2.9085/105	West German marks
	3.2685/700	Dutch guilders
	2.3895/910	Swiss francs
	58.73/78	Belgian francs
	8.8650/700	French francs
	1946/1947	Italian lire
	242.03/13	Japanese yen
	8.5225/325	Swedish crowns
	8.4776/875	Norwegian crowns
	10.5125/225	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	315.63/316.15	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed mixed after an easier opening. Dealers said prices were initially marked down in response to the sharp fall on Wall Street on Tuesday but light buying interest helped lift many issues off the early lows. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 0.8 points at 1,295.2 having touched a low of 1,289.0 at 0909 GMT.

Trading was quiet and selective with attention centred mainly around companies reporting results with Legal and General 23p higher at 667 after better than expected interim.

Government bonds closed little changed after an easier start in thin trading. Golds and North Americans were mostly easier. Other companies reporting half yearly figures on Wednesday included British Leyland down 3p at 31. Britannia A row 3p up at 110. Stewart Wrightson 13p firmer at 652 and Woolworth 2p up at 480 after 483. Fleet Holdings added a penny on balance to 362 after announcing its annual results.

Banks were easier but off the early lows in places with Barclays 2p off at 372 after 367. Insurances were mostly firm. Oils rallied with B.P. 11p at 536 after 523 and Britoil part paid 3p higher at 126 after 121. Enterprise, which now owns 22.19 per cent of Saxon Oil, added 1p to 175. Saxon lost 3p to 540. Plessey was unchanged at 136 while Kofe firmed 15p to 105.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, SEPT. 19, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you are apt to be too determined to get what you want and be too demanding. A tactful and diplomatic approach will enable you to make real headway.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can get into a different course of action now, but study it further and don't yield to impulse.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You want to force your mate into getting into some enterprise that you feel would be of advantage to both of you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't reach a quick agreement with a partner until you have studied every angle, or you could regret it later.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get into your work and study its full potential plus the fine details of it and you gain greater benefits.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Look into amusements that will please you and enjoy them, and put dull duties aside for a while. Avoid arguing with loved ones.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Morning is best spent handling desk affairs and later you can have a delightful time in home affairs. Make home more attractive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get into the world of business and talk over with associates how to improve your daily existence. Seek influential friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Early in the day plan how to gain personal progress and later concentrate on your financial affairs. See friends later in the week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan just how to gain your personal aims in the morning and then discuss your ideas with experts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Listen to the advice of a good friend on how to have more accord with your mate. Follow the advice this evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be with friends who are congenial and have a good sense of humor. Steer clear of those who are demanding.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you avoid a depressed partner, you can get on and accomplish a good deal today. Agree with policies of a bigwig.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very interested in the modern world and its people. Add foreign languages to the school curriculum to make the most of the fine talents here. Teach early not to get bogged down with details too much.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, SEPT. 20, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A sudden inspiration or event in the morning can show you the way to have considerably more expression of your talents even though it may at first appear to be a problem.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are able to get into some new situation that will help you to further your interests and you can accomplish a good deal today.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A sudden idea just how to please a friend should be put in motion quickly with good results following.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be with a partner who has his feet on the ground and will prevent you from taking any chances that would not be wise.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You have promises to keep so get right at them and stop procrastinating since you can handle them wisely.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can have a fine time by receiving some unexpected invitation or by following a hunch just where to go for recreation.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Quickly get at the improvements you want to make at home and don't dilly-dally over them. Avoid a troublemaker.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) State your expectations to associates and be direct instead of working angles for best results. Be careful driving.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You now understand just how to add to your abundance so put your ideas in operation right away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Know what your personal wishes are since the planets are favorable and you can attain them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Concentrate on the policy level of your activities and don't be so concerned with the practical. Be romantic with mate tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be your true gregarious self today and see as many persons as you can. Devote some time to hobbies.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have an opportunity to do something very significant in the outside world so be alert to it. Be most careful in motion today.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will do just about everything in a different fashion from most, but should be taught early to be more conventional and follow rules and regulations without losing any of the uniqueness here.

Reagan warns Congress against 'a one-way trip to disaster'

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan warned Congress Tuesday that a mindless stampede towards protectionism would invite foreign retaliation, leading to economic disaster on a scale not known since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Branding some 300 bills now before Congress as a "mindless stampede towards protectionism," the president told a televised news conference such measures would be "a one-way trip to economic disaster."

He repeatedly recalled the impact of congressional measures that helped plunge the United States into its worst-ever depression.

Mr. Reagan said that if Congress enacted similar measures now, the result would be economic disaster. "I know, I lived through that period," he said.

He also expressed deep concern that protectionism would invite retaliation from America's trading partners, who would target the country's principal industries and

its already-crippled agricultural sector. Instead, Mr. Reagan urged Congress "to work with me, not against me" in keeping trade free, cutting tax rates and curbing government spending.

Dismissing fears that the estimated 1985 trade deficit of \$150 billion would hurt the economic expansion, Mr. Reagan said the record federal budget deficit was "the threat to everything we hold dear."

He noted that America boasted a trade surplus during each of the 10 years of the Great Depression. In contrast, there has been a consistent trade deficit during the current 33-month-long expansion.

Mr. Reagan also played down reports that the United States has become a debtor nation, saying: "I think this false impression is being given that trade imbalance means debtor nation."

Figures showing the United States had a current account balance of payments deficit of \$32 billion

in the second quarter omitted many offsetting factors, he said.

Massive foreign investment in the country was one, he said. "We are the best and safest investment in the world today."

Asked why he did not support a bill to protect the textile industry, crippled by low-cost imports, Mr. Reagan replied: "There's no way you can shield one industry without exposing others."

He said he had begged America's allies in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to join the United States in launching a new round of trade talks.

Such negotiations would cut tariffs further and remove subsidies and other trade barriers. "These things we'll do, and do vigorously," he said.

But he served notice to U.S. trading partners that he was ready to take action against unfair trading practices, although he did not elaborate.

"If there is an unfairness we are going to take action," the president declared.

'Americans earn highest salaries'

NEW YORK (AP) — Cooks earn the most in Caracas, Venezuela. Engineers and bank tellers do best in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. But overall, salaries are highest in the United States, according to a survey released Wednesday.

At the same time, some U.S. cities rank among the world's most expensive to live in. Union Bank of Switzerland said.

The figures, compiled by the bank during the first half of 1985 are contained in its sixth worldwide survey of prices and earnings in 49 major cities.

New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston were included in the survey entitled Prices and Earnings Around the Globe.

Measured on a scale of costs for 119 goods and services, Lagos, Nigeria, was the most expensive city to live in, while Tokyo and New York ranked second and third. They were followed by Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Manama, Bahrain; Chicago, Houston, Jeddah, Oslo, Norway, and Los Angeles.

Lisbon, Portugal, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Istanbul, Turkey; and Bangkok, Thailand, were at the bottom end of the scale.

The study surveyed earnings in terms of weighted average hourly wages in 12 occupational categories.

New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston were the four cities with the highest average pay, the survey said without giving specific figures.

"The average worker in New York earns 42 per cent more than a worker in Zurich or Tokyo and more than twice as much as the average worker in Paris," it said.

In terms of the world's best average take-home salaries for specific job categories, the survey found that teachers made \$21,200 a year and department managers \$52,900 in Abu Dhabi; engineers made \$42,800 and bank tellers \$29,400 in Jeddah, and cooks earned \$30,500 in Caracas.

People in the developing nations of Africa and Asia generally earned and spent less than those elsewhere, with pay lowest in Bombay, India; Manila, the Philippines; and Jakarta, Indonesia.

The glaring exception was Lagos, Nigeria, with a cost of living four times that of Bangkok, the cheapest city.

Lagos was near the bottom in most of the dozen categories of wage earners in the study.

Goods and services in Lagos, exclusive of rent, cost \$2,010 monthly, followed by Tokyo, \$1,790; New York, \$1,600 and Abu Dhabi, \$1,580, the report said.

A medium-priced three-room apartment in Lagos cost \$460 while in New York, the most expensive U.S. city, the rent was \$1,000.

The least expensive apartments were \$100 in Bangkok, \$90 in Buenos Aires and \$80 in Jakarta, three cities at the bottom of the pay scale.

The four most expensive cities for food were Lagos, \$650 monthly; Tokyo, \$624; Seoul, South Korea, and Jeddah, both at \$395.

In terms of purchasing power, the report found workers in extreme southern and northern Europe the best off. The most favorable ratio was in Lisbon, followed by Helsinki, Madrid, Athens, Dublin and Stockholm.

The lowest-paid wage earners in the survey were construction workers in Bombay, taking home \$500 a year.

Disastrous winter will nearly halve 1985 champagne output

PARIS (R) — The summer sun may have melted most memories of this year's biting frosts, but they linger on in champagne.

The champagne trade association (CIVC) estimates this year's production of bubbly at 100 million bottles, down nearly a half from 190 million in 1984.

Around 10 per cent of the vineyards in the strictly defined champagne area of eastern France were destroyed by the severe winter and spring frosts, according to the CIVC's Andre Enders.

So widespread was the damage that growers asked the agricultural ministry to declare their

region a disaster area.

Mr. Enders said they took pride in solving their own problems, but that the cost of repairing the damage this time was too high.

Although no decision has been taken yet, a farm ministry source says it seems likely the growers will receive some aid.

It is still too early to gauge the quality of this year's champagne. The grapes will probably not be ready for picking until early October. Such late harvests are usually good for only non-vintage wine, but Mr. Enders says there are exceptions. The small 1978 crop produced wine of a very interesting quality.

Exports should not suffer too much from this year's exceptionally small output. Producers have built up stocks from bumper harvests in the last three years, and more than 600 million bottles are maturing in the cellars.

But Mr. Enders says prices are likely to rise after staying reasonably static for a number of years.

Champagne exports are doing well this year. In the first six months of 1985, 29.4 million bottles were exported, a rise of 22.5 per cent on the same 1984 period.

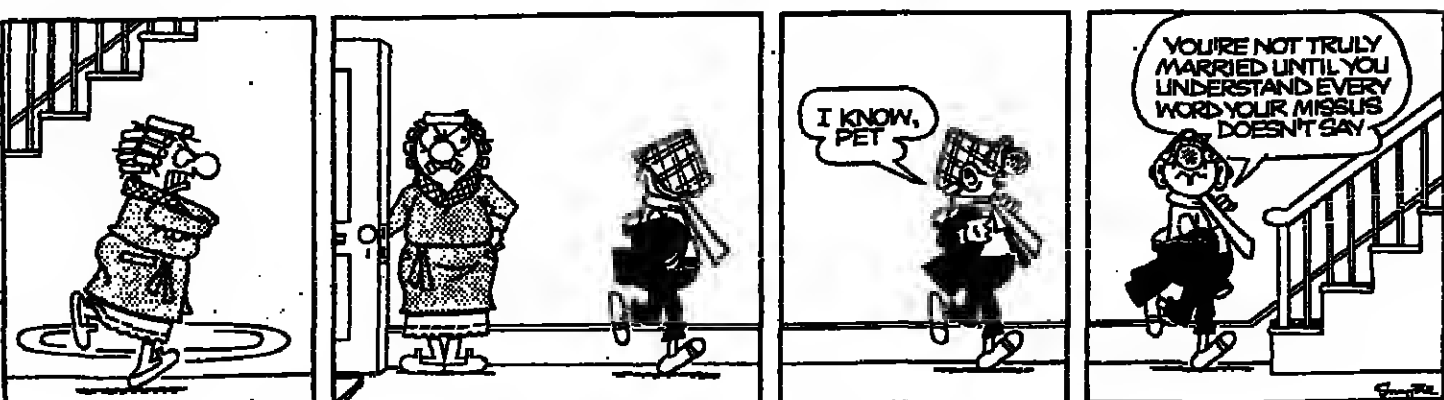
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



IMF, World Bank to focus on role of U.S. economy

WASHINGTON (R) — Continued uncertainty about the impact of the U.S. economy on world recovery is likely to be a key issue at next month's annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank in Seoul, South Korea.

Only continued economic expansion can hold the international debt crisis at bay, U.S. officials and Western diplomats say. Attention in financial, banking and government circles is now fixed on the role of the American economy in this process.

There are grave fears for global financial stability among some Reagan administration and U.S. central bank officials if interest rates were to rise again worldwide.

These concerns are linked to the strength of the U.S. economy — the faster the American economy is growing the greater the chances interest rates will rise.

Washington predicts the U.S. economy, often seen as "the locomotive" pulling the rest of the world along, will grow at a five per cent annual rate in the second half of 1985.

Few private U.S. economists agree, however.

Merrill Lynch, a Wall Street investment firm, forecasts the U.S. economy will grow only at a three per cent annual rate in the third quarter and slow to a two per cent for the rest of 1985. Many other forecasters share this perspective.

"It's a very uncertain lift-off for the economy," said Mr. Timothy Howard, chief economist of the Federal National Mortgage Association.

Monetary sources said if the private forecasters are right, and some think they are, then it will make it easier for the U.S. Federal Reserve (Central Bank) to contain upward pressure on American interest rates.

"The economy isn't booming by any stretch

of the imagination," one said.

Federal Reserve (Fed) and administration officials are likely to reassure their principal economic partners during the Seoul meetings starting on Oct. 2 that U.S. interest rates will not be driven higher.

Western diplomats said continued global economic growth is essential if Third World debtor nations are to maintain high levels of exports, helping them repay their foreign loans, estimated to total between \$700 and \$800 billion.

The Reagan administration, meanwhile, facing a surge of protectionist pressure from Congress, is likely to press Europe and Japan at the IMF meetings to stimulate their economies. U.S. officials and Western diplomats say.

Such a development would help ease America's estimated \$150 billion trade deficit this year, by expanding foreign markets for U.S. goods. It could also assist the White House in fending off protectionist measures by Congress.

EC treasury ministers agree inadequate budget, face battle

LUXEMBOURG (R) — A compromise agreement on the European Community (EC) draft budget for 1986 will not cover the full cost of bringing Spain and Portugal into the 10-nation bloc next January. Community leaders said Wednesday.

Community treasury ministers agreed on the first draft of next year's budget early Wednesday after a marathon 19-hour session.

Diplomats said the Community now faces months of wrangling between ministers and the European Parliament before final agreement on how to keep spending in check while covering the higher costs caused by the entry of Spain and Portugal.

Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker, current president of the Council of Ministers and Luxembourg budget minister, told journalists Wednesday's agreement would not cover the full cost of enlargement.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Cott, chairman of the parliament's budget committee said later: "The council's is incoherent. In 1985, they produced a budget for 10 months instead of 12. In 1986, they have produced a budget for 10 states instead of 12."

Ministers agreed 1986 spending should rise to 32.1 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$24.5 billion) from 28.4 billion ECUs (\$21.3 billion) this year, well below proposals by the Community's executive commission.

With Spain and Portugal strongly opposed to paying for commitments agreed before their entry, ministers put off for the next meeting the problem of previous spending commitments, diplomats said.

But West Germany, Denmark, France, the Netherlands and Britain won accord to hold spending growth on non-agricultural items below a 7.10 per cent ceiling.

Spain has complained it could end up a net contributor of over 200 million ECU (\$150 million) to the bloc in 1986, contrary to signed agreements about its entry to the Community.

Diplomats said this could be politically embarrassing with general elections scheduled in Spain for next year. They said Madrid saw a rise in spending on non-agricultural items — such as regional and social projects — as a way round the problem.

But ministers with longer experience in the group had insisted on the self-imposed 7.10 per cent limit as a tactic to restrain parliament from boosting spending sharply, they added.

Under budget rules, parliament can only add another 3.55 per cent to non-agricultural spending if ministers stay inside their limit. At the second budget reading in November, ministers could then take full account of the cost of Spanish entry.

Argentina seeks French investments

PARIS (R) — Argentine President Raul Alfonsin will call for more French investment in his debt-ridden country during talks with President Francois Mitterrand Wednesday.

Mr. Alfonsin, who arrived in France Wednesday on the last leg of a three-nation European tour, will also meet Prime Minister Laurent Fabius and several cabinet members during his four-day state visit.

He will also discuss the disputed Falkland Islands with British opposition leader Mr. Neil Kinnock, whose decision to meet Mr. Alfonsin was criticised by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

In an interview published Tuesday by the left-wing daily Liberation, the Argentine president said French investment in Argentina, especially in energy, technology, petrochemicals and fertilisers, would be prominent in his talks with Mr. Mitterrand.

Mr. Alfonsin, in West Germany after visiting Yugoslavia, said his economic recovery plan was suffering from the European Community's agricultural policy.

During his tour he has attacked what he called "ferocious protectionism" by the Community, which he accused of robbing Argentina of its traditional meat markets through heavy subsidies.

But Mr. Alfonsin said he had found individual positive res-

ponses to his country's problems from each of the 10 member states.

A French external relations ministry spokesman said the visit was a sign of "trust and esteem" between the two countries.

Mr. Alfonsin, whose delegation includes Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, is also accompanied by a large group of Argentine businessmen.

Mr. Alfonsin's programme in France includes a dinner with French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy at the chamber of commerce and industry in Paris Thursday.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EXIDO

GLUNE

VERYUP

CLARIA

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE " " OF " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRACK DADDY GIMLET BOYISH.

Answer: What the tax collector did for the man who thought he was saving up for a rainy day — "SOAKED" HIM.

